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THE OLD RECTORY CARE HOME, WENVOE
Feature on Page 26

Christmas Party Guide

Bonus point win sets up clash at Twickenham
BACK PAGE COMMENT by DON JOHN

COWBRIDGE COMMUTER FEARS THERE COULD BE A TRAGEDY

'School must look at its drop-off policy!'

by GEM REPORTER

A commuter who regularly passes by Cowbridge Comprehensive School, has contacted The GEM because he is worried about the safety of pupils arriving for the school day.

Mr Wayne Locke said he fears there could be an accident.

He explained that from 7.45am to 8.45am on the Aberthin Road between the Edmondes Arms and the brow between Aberthin and the school, it was very dangerous.

He said: "I pass the school each morning between these times, and most mornings I witness children narrowly missed by vehicles, as they are dropped off for school by parents who are not permitted at certain times to access the school's purpose-built drop-off zone.

"One appreciates the school has a duty to prevent accidents on school grounds, but to exacerbate the risk of serious incidents by displacing the drop-off zone onto the narrow highway outside school is increased madness.

"One also appreciates that parents and pupils should (in theory) obey the strict rules and timings put in place by the school as to when pupils are dropped off.

"However, this does not reflect the real world and the reality of the matter is that whatever their reason for being late, children's lives are put at risk every morning.

"Only this morning (Friday, September 18) I witnessed two very 'close shave' incidents, where pupils were nearly knocked over by vehicles, as masses of pupils were forced to take their chances in the same environment as cars and buses stopping, overtaking, pulling out and turning on the narrow public highway."

Mr Locke, who works in Cowbridge, went on:"My colleague in work also witnessed a similar separate incident when she was driving to the office this morning.

"There are many conflicting reports as to what the new Cowbridge Comprehensive School actually cost to develop but either way, circa £21.5 million or more was invested to develop a child safe environment with purpose built coach and car drop-off and parking zones.

"If the existing design of this very expensive, brand new school is not fit for purpose, who is accountable and what's being done about it?

"Cowbridge, and the Vale as a community, needs to lobby the school to change its policy of simply shifting the problem off site and start embracing its responsibilities, before the loss of a child's life forces that change."

A Vale Council spokesman said: "Members of the council's highways team visited the school earlier this month to assess the situation.

"Within the school's car park, the designated school buses were adhering to the new drop-off arrangements safely.

"With regard to traffic on the road, it was our engineers' view that while there were certainly some inconsiderate and inappropriate road manoeuvres being undertaken, visibility for all road users was good and there was no significant risk to either road users or pedestrians.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 6)

Music festival gets standing ovation!

Cello octet Cellophony opened the Cowbridge Music Festival last Thursday night, September 17 - and were treated to a standing ovation from an appreciative audience! (See more pictures from MIKE WILCOCK and a report on page 4).

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Readers' Letters

Please keep your letters BRIEF and address them to: The Editor, at Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL or email gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk

• ***LETTERS AND E-MAILS MUST INCLUDE FULL ADDRESS AND A CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBER***

IMPORTANT: We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail. An email address alone is not sufficient!
We will (*in certain circumstances*)protect a writer's identity, if requested.

'Improved cycle path is the real answer on road'

I WAS surprised to read the letter from Max Wallis of Friends of the Earth in last week's GEM, because it sounds as though he is against separated cycle paths in principle.

Anyone who thinks that cycling should be an available transport option for anyone who would like to use it, which surely includes FoE, needs to support segregation on main roads, because the vast majority of people are not willing to cycle on the roads in existing conditions.

If, however, I have misunderstood, and he was only objecting to the particular implementation on Port Road, then I agree with him.

In order to be successful, it should be safe enough for unaccompanied schoolchildren and users of mobility scooters, while being convenient enough to attract existing sporty, touring or commuting cyclists.

I would rate Port Road as poor on the first, and terrible on the second.

Between Weycock Cross and the roundabout at the Docks Link Road, anyone using the road may (or may not) have to wait at one roundabout and/or two signalised junctions.

On the other hand, the cycle path begins on the opposite side of the road and things don't really improve from there.

It requires crossing back over Port Road later on via a two-stage toucan crossing; and crossing Colcot Road, with no help beyond a 'cattle pen', and with a poor sightline due to parked cars.

Further, there are four more unaided crossings of side roads, all requiring cyclists to give way, one with a 'cyclists dismount' sign, and one requiring four right-angle turns; two more toucan crossings; 15 driveways and one petrol station exit with no marked priority; and, in places, bumpy, puddle-ridden and debris-strewn surfaces.

So my argument is not that such a cycle path is not required, but that it should be much, much better.

Julian Anstey.

'Potential disaster zone should carry a health warning'

NO surprise there then! The ash plant earmarked for Barry Docks has finally been given the go-ahead by the planning committee members, who probably don't even live here, despite so much opposition from those who do.

Just along the road there's the Dow chemical plant – a few miles up the coast is Aberthaw power station – and within view across the channel, is Hinkley Point nuclear power station...

Yes, Barry is fast becoming the place to 'live, work and play', but it should come with a Government health warning with all these potential environmental disaster zones on its doorstep.

T Abery,
Barry.

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'The street lighting cuts in the Vale are an absolute farce'

DO we have some intelligent species running our council, or just some melancholy bodies paid lip service to control our services to such an unacceptable degree of satisfaction?

We are told that in order for the council to make essential cash savings throughout the coming financial year and beyond, certain of our street lighting will have to be turned off during night time periods between midnight and 6am, in order to make essential services more economical.

What an absolute farce indeed! Just take a moment after midnight to witness such essential cuts to our street lighting, and you will see that yet again our erstwhile council have got it wrong.

For example, the street lights at the Harbour Road causeway on the approach to Barry Island are turned off between midnight and 6am; an amazing amount of money can be saved by this action but there are certain anomalies which make this practice a complete and utter farce.

The Harbour Road council-run car park and the footpath alongside the said car park toward the breakwater, are fully illuminated all night, with the car park, especially, lit up with no fewer than about 18 floodlights.

The floodlights on the new footbridge at Barry Island station are also decimating the national grid at a time when there is no one using the facility, due to the fact that most people are in bed between the hours of midnight to 6am.

The even greater farce is that the Civic Offices and car park at Holton Road/Dock View Road are both lit up like Crystal Palace. Why do they always get everything so wrong?

This misdemeanour has been reported to councillors and the council officers responsible at least twice to my knowledge, but seems as usual to have fallen on deaf years.

The council will have us believe that they are trying to save money, taxpayers' money, yet this particular issue remains unchecked – even after complaints have been duly and accordingly made to the officials concerned.

However, you can obviously realise the contempt of a council that wastes over £245,000 on refurbishment of the council chambers, to include £58,000 on luxury leather chairs, when the former chairs were in above average condition, makes this situation more of a farce than one could possibly imagine.

This makes the council stand out among the crowd as a real time comedy of errors, which one could not make up even if one tried.

Barrie V Evans,
Coordinator Barry First Group,
Barry Voice, Focus Barry Supporter.

LONG WAIT FOR HOSPITAL TEST

RECENTLY, the system of assessing how quickly emergency ambulances reach patients facing life threatening situations was dramatically altered.

This change followed years of failing to hit the minimum targets. Apparently, the change had nothing to do with the political embarrassment of monthly reports of delays and queues of ambulances at hospital doors.

When these easier targets were challenged by Plaid Cymru the Labour ministers said the old system was years out of date, but didn't explain why the changes had not occurred earlier. Naturally, they also didn't mention that cancer targets had also been made easier to achieve.

Now it has emerged that if you are a patient in Wales, the time spent waiting for diagnostic tests can be massively longer than for a patient in Scotland or England.

An MRI scan is a good example. In England less than 1 per cent of patients wait longer than six weeks. In Wales the figure is 32 per cent.

For a cystoscopy, a specialist bladder examination, the figures are 6.4 per cent in England and a huge 52 per cent in Wales.

So the pledge by Elin Jones Plaid health spokeswoman that a Plaid Government would bring Welsh care levels for diagnostics up to the UK level is very welcome.

It is simply not acceptable for Welsh waiting times to be substantially longer than elsewhere. Labour ministers have let people down for far too long.

This means that people who are worried about potential illnesses are waiting far too long for the diagnosis.

Plaid would seek to match the highest standards across the UK and ensure that people receive cancer diagnoses within 28 days.

Chris Franks,
Dinas Powys
(Plaid Cymru councillor).

'LILys in Lycra'

PICTURE the scene, Penarth pier on Sunday – weather a bit misty but otherwise quite mild; on the pier, some chums taking part in a fishing competition, youngsters laughing, eating chips and having fun.

Toddlers whizzing about on their scooters and running around screaming and chasing pigeons.

Along come two thick-set cyclists, covered in garish Lycra, riding their bikes. They dismount near the end of the pier and start posing for each other for photos.

They get back on their bikes and set off towards the Pavilion end: a shout was heard, "*Get off your bikes*!" The reply given by the cyclist was two fingers in the air.

Again a shout: "*Yes you two, get off your bikes!*" This time, the two-fingered salute was given by two hands each in the air. This is all in front of youngsters and toddlers.

Now at the entrance to the pier, it states that cycling on the pier is not allowed, presumably for the safety of youngsters and toddlers (and even for some of the elderly or infirm).

Surely these 'oh so clever' cyclists can read the notice and understand why the restriction is in place.

Perhaps the cyclists have the mentality that the roads (and pier) belong to them and that cycle ways are not for them.

Whatever the reason, whenever I see cyclists, they are usually covered in Lycra, which gives then the name 'Louts In Lycra" or LILys.

Dave Adams,
Barry.

'WELL DONE TO THE VALE COUNCIL PARKS DEPARTMENT'

I WOULD like to thank the Vale Council's parks department for taking note of my phone call, in relation to litter left behind by footballers after their games at Buttrills playing fields.

It was pleasant to walk on the fields on Saturday after five o' clock and see the litter bin close to the field's entrance full of plastic bottles, and not to see them lying on the halfway lines of the pitches.

The parks department assured me that they are writing to the local league, telling the clubs they could be fined for littering if they didn't tidy up after games.

So if there is litter left behind, please ring the Vale Council on 01446 700111 and complain.

Now all we want is for dog owners to 'bag it and bin it', after their dogs have defecated.

Gerry Bushen,
Barry.

'Staffies nicer than humans'

I FEEL I must reply to Mrs SE Hall (The GEM, September 10) and her sweeping statement "I hear Staffies can be unpredictable".

My Staffie and I were together for 13 wonderful years. I would urge Mrs Hall to meet a Staffie.

Ask an owner if you could stroll their dog, and I guarantee their tail will wag and they will want to lick you and try to get a cuddle.

Why not visit a rescue centre or the local dog pound and see how many Staffies are dumped and abandoned?

Watch veterinary programmes on TV and hear the horrific stories of how some are beaten and abused – some to death.

My own Staffie, despite being on a lead, was twice attacked in fields by two Greyhounds and then two Bull Mastiffs.

Both times we were a long way away, but the dogs spotted what to them seemed a small animal and raced over to us and were on my dog's back in seconds. All dogs can, at times, be unpredictable.

Numerous people have told me about small dogs, off the lead, dancing round and round very big dogs while constantly yapping and barking and their owners nearby, laughing.

The big dogs showed remarkable indifference, but just imagine the headline and who would be blamed, if the large dogs had retaliated.

I am glad that Lola has made a good recovery.

I will always prefer the company of a Staffie to that of a human!

Liz Thomas,
Barry.

HIGH TIDE TIMES
(UNTIL OCTOBER 1)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
24 Thur	03.17	7.8	15.57	8.3
25 Fri	04.33	8.4	16.59	9.1
26 Sat	05.28	9.4	17.56	9.9
27 Sun	06.20	10.0	18.43	10.5
28 Mon	07.11	10.6	19.27	10.9
29 Tues	07.53	10.8	20.14	11.1
30 Wed	08.36	10.9	20.58	10.8
01 Thur	09.19	10..5	21.42	10.4

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

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Cowbridge History Society looks forward to a packed agenda!

THE Cowbridge History Society is about to begin another of its seasons of popular talks on a wide range of historical topics including many on south Wales.

The society meets every first Friday of the month in the Lesser Hall of Cowbridge Town Hall. The society's new website *cowbridgehistorysociety.org* is a good starting point to find information about its work.

Our programme secretary, Dick Tonkin of Llanblethian, has assembled an attractive list of speakers and topics talks for before Christmas, the first of which (Friday, October 2 at 7.30pm) commemorates to 200th anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo by two local scholars Don Gerrard and Patricia Price.

This is followed by lectures on the history of Roman Catholics in south Wales in the 17th Century and the career of Henry V.

Talks usually last about 50 minutes, followed by a lively discussion between audience and speaker. There are convivial refreshments after the talks, helping to make it into a social occasion.

As part of its commemoration of the Battle of Agincourt in 1415 the society will be showing a film of Shakespeare's *Henry V*, either the classic wartime version starring Laurence Olivier (1944) or the more recent production by Kenneth Branagh (1989).

Members at our first meeting in October will choose which one they would prefer to see: It will be shown on Wednesday, December 9, in the large hall of Cowbridge Town Hall, in partnership with Big Screen. It will be open to the general public, as well as to members. Tickets £4.

The society offers members an occasional newsletter and a Charter Day excursion to a place of historical interest, with access to a good lunch!

Over the years, the society has produced a range of books about the local area, many of which are still available.

In addition, the society manages the local history study room in Old Hall, which is open on Wednesday mornings.

This is a considerable resource for Cowbridge and the Vale; Betty Alden and her colleagues are always looking out for volunteers to help with its important work.

The society is now making good progress with the digitization the centre's archive, but this will take some years to complete, especially as it grows week by week – thanks to donations of material from local people.

The need for additional help will shortly become more pressing.

If you would like to help contact Betty on bettyalden1@gmail.com or (01446 773373).

Annual membership of the Society is £7.50, but single events can be attended for £1.50. Why not join us?

DICK BUSWELL,
Chair, Cowbridge History Society.

WI members plant tree to mark 100th anniversary

Left to right: Maria Weber, Jackie Roberts, Jenny Hughes, Joy Rees, Caroline Neudegg, Sheila Davies, Betty Thomas (president), Ray Evans, Sian Deal and Kay Heath.

TO celebrate the centenary year of the Women's Institute, St Hilary WI planted an acer tree in the St Hilary Pump Garden on September 16 – the date in 1915 that the WI was formed in Llanfair PG. Members gathered for the ceremonial planting, complete with commemoration plaque. A celebratory toast then took place in The Bush.

Crafternoon in Ystradowen

A CRAFTERNOON tea held in Ystradowen Village Hall on Sunday, September 13 raised £950 for the Brick Children School in Nepal.

Participants were able to choose from a wide range of activities to make, including dream catchers, Christmas wreaths, stitched cards and brooches from fabric scraps before enjoying a delicious afternoon tea of hand made sandwiches and home made cakes. Organisers would like to thank all those who volunteered their time to help run the day and those who participated ad gave so geneously. We are also grateful to the Cowbridge Cycle Club who stopped off for refreshments and gave donations to support the event.

A report of the day is available here https://cowbridgestitchandbitch.wordpress.com/. ***Monica Dennis***

GLAMORGAN QUILTERS' TRIP

A COACH trip to Malvern Autumn Quilt Show will leave from behind Cowbridge Town Hall at 8.30am on Saturday, October 24.

Cost £20 includes admission to the show; places must be booked by October 4, by posting a cheque (payable to Glamorgan Quilters, and including your contact details) to: Salinder Gammage, 19 Green Park, Talbot Green, Pontyclun CF72 8RB. Telephone 01443 224550 for further details.

Scout jumble 'huge success'

THE local Scout group was once again astonished by the generosity of Cowbridge residents, who dug through their wardrobes, garages and lofts and donated a great variety of items for the Scouts' annual jumble sale last Saturday.

Cubs, Scouts and their parents were very busy earlier in the week collecting door-to-door, then an enthusiastic army of volunteers spent all of the Friday sorting the donations... and having fun trying to guess what some items were! By the end of the day, you could barely see the tables as they were so completely covered with donated items.

Although the doors didn't officially open until 10.30am on the Saturday, there were half a dozen people already queuing by 9am. The jumble sale has become something of a tradition, with people travelling from far afield; one lady told us this was her 25th year coming with her whole family from around the Valleys.

When the doors closed and the money was counted, £1,390 had been taken. A further £140 was made from selling the leftover clothes, bringing the grand total to £1,530.

This amount may rise even further as there was a lot of interest in the books but it was hard to display everything we had to best effect. So it is planned to hold a further book sale later in the year when people can browse at their leisure.

As always, the Scout group would like to thank everyone who donated or volunteered time to make this such a successful event. Diolch!

ELUNED MORAN,
Beaver Section Leader

COMMUNITY NEWS

Your local correspondent is
NANCY DAVIDGE
"Tynewydd", Llangan.
(01656) 860303
TREOES, LLANGAN & ST MARY HILL

Llangan school

SINCE returning to school following their long summer holidays and coping so well with the disruption at the play area, with builder's machinery in constant use, years 3/4 children enjoyed a visit to the Gower for a woodland walk.

Years 5/6 had a visit to the Aberthaw power station to learn about renewable energy.

The school now has a lift, which will be a great help for any pupil or visitor who finds it difficult negotiating the steps.

Another surprise was the modern improved kitchen and in close proximity, the school library – a place of calm where children are able to relax and learn.

This was the infant room, the teacher being Mrs Abby. I was in the headmaster's class (Mr Griffiths). There are still many former pupils aged in their late 80s and mid 90s, who remember how it used to be.

St Canna's Llangan, autumn fayre

PLEASE come on Saturday, October 3 between 10am – 12.30pm and enjoy the many attractions on offer.

They include homemade cakes, flowers, tombola and a children's corner where they can play while mum has a cuppa!

Even if the weather is bad the fayre will still go ahead.

If anyone can contribute cakes, plants etc it will be very much appreciated.

Telephone Ruth Williams (01656 656199) further information.

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VIRTUOSO PERFORMANCES AND WORLD PREMIERE, AS MUSIC FESTIVAL GROWS

CELLO octet Cellophony opened the Cowbridge Music Festival last Thursday night, September 17.

A packed Holy Cross enjoyed Wagner, Barber, traditional Russian folk and a world premiere of a commission by Cowbridge composer Gareth Moorcraft...For the encore, a James Bond soundtrack medley.

On Friday, principal flautist of English National Opera, Paul Edmund-Davies, gave a masterclass for five budding young performers. And on Saturday, afternoon, Welsh soprano Elin Manahan Thomas returned to the festival for a vocal masterclass with five outstanding young singers.

Sixteen-year-old violinist Charlie Lovell-Jones wowed the audience on Saturday night with virtuosic renditions of Debussy, Stravinsky and Paganini. Plus a surprise premiere—a new arrangement of the theme from *Fiddler On The Roof*.

Clarinettist Julian Bliss was joined by Welsh soprano Fflur Wyn, for an intimate Sunday evening performance of Chopin, Brahms and Spohr.

Fflur kindly took time out from WNO's *Orlando* to replace Ailish Tynan, who was unwell. Highlights included Schubert's 'Shepherd On The Rock', and a magical encore of 'Ar Hyd Y Nos'.

This year brings the festival's busiest line-up yet, with eight main concerts, two masterclasses, one Patron's Concert and several school outreach performances. Ticket sales, audience numbers and community sponsorship support continue to grow.

Still to come are Alice Zawadzki's candlelit 'Songs to the Moon' on Thursday, September 24, and Latin jazz from the Julian Bliss Jazz Septet on Friday, September 25. Tickets available, online or from Sorrento on the High Street.

Nicola Benedetti's Patron's Concert on November 12 has sold out. To be added to the cancellations list, please email info@cowbridgemusicfestival.co.uk with your name and contact details.

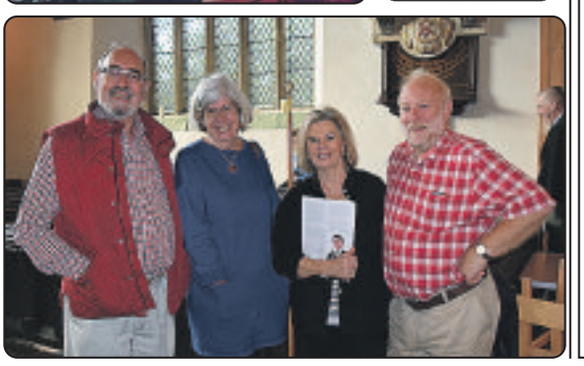
Rosie Bowker, Jack Welch, Cameron Cullen, Carys Gittins, Sue Bird and Paul Edmund Davies.

Becky Hen-Huan Wang, Mary Elliott Rose (artistic director) and Gareth Moorcraft (Cowbridge composer).

PHOTOGRAPHS by MIKE WILCOCK

Charlie Lovell-Jones wowed the audience.

A packed out Holy Cross church heard a variety of inspiring music.



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THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

(COLWINSTON PUBLIC FOOTPATH No 13 (PART)) (TEMPORARY CLOSURE) ORDER 2015

On the 24th September 2015 the Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Section 14) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended) made an Order the general effect of which is as described in the schedules below:

The Order will come into force on 28th September 2015 and will be known as "The Vale of Glamorgan Council Colwinston Public Footpath No 13 (Part) (Temporary Closure) Order 2015.

If you wish to question the validity of the Order or any provisions contained therein on the grounds that they are not within the powers conferred by the above Act or on the grounds that any requirement of the same or that any instrument made under it has not been complied with in relation to the Order, you may within six weeks from the 28th September 2015 apply to the High Court for this purpose.

SCHEDULE 1

1. No person shall proceed on foot in the locations specified in Schedule 2 below.

SCHEDULE 2

Location	Footpath (Public Rights of Way) known as Colwinston Number 13 from grid ref 294190 175799 in a southerly direction to grid 294304 175521.
Alt. Route	During this closure, a diversion along a temporary footway will be provided to the outside (eastern side) of the construction compound.
Reason	To prevent danger to pedestrians while construction work is carried out.
Duration	From 00.01Hrs on Tuesday 28th September 2015 for a maximum period of six months.

Dated this 24th day of September 2015

M. E. Punter,
Head of Visible Services & Housing,
Vale of Glamorgan Council,
The Alps, Wenvoe. CF5 6AA.

New pupils make a splash in Llancarfan

THE new reception pupils only started three weeks ago but have already got stuck into their learning activities at Llancarfan Primary School!

They have been busy making home- made slime, creating monsters out of mud and walking in spaghetti as part of their creative topic, 'Muck, Mess and Mixtures'.

The children have settled into school life really well, thanks to care and support of their year-6 'buddies'.

Each reception child is paired up with a year-6 pupil, who spends time with them at playtimes and lunch-time to ensure that they feel safe and happy in their new environment.

The new pupils have also been squelching through the mud in their wellies, on a walk through the local woods, to collect sticks and leaves for their project.

Their class teacher, Mrs Sue Birkin, said: "It's lovely to see the children so happy and settled in their new school. All the pupils in Llancarfan have made our new children feel really welcome."

CH

How Alan beat his stammer

THE president of St Nicholas WI, Fran Mitchell, welcomed back members and three new guests after the summer break and introduced speaker Alan Badmington.

His talk was entitled 'Lost for Words' and there followed a most interesting and uplifting story of his struggle to overcome the stammer which had been a problem from childhood.

Speech therapy had failed to help him enunciate half the consonants in the alphabet.

In spite of this, Alan was determined to join the Police Force and made that his career, finding ways to avoid the use of certain letters.

Other therapies were tried, with only partial success, until he heard about the McGuire programme in his retirement.

It was a four-day course teaching breathing techniques and using psychology to change the mindset.

It was so successful. that it enabled Alan to go on to demonstrate the system in the USA and other parts of the world, joining public speaking clubs and winning awards in this field, and leading to greater fulfilment in his life.

Following a break for refreshments, the meeting continued with reports of an enjoyable visit to St Fagans WI to take part in their centenary strawberry tea and an invitation to join Culverhouse Cross in their celebrations too.

The county newsletter was read and forthcoming events noted, including the Federation of Wales Conference and gala concert in St David's Hall.

Attention was drawn to the Wales WI campaign to improve the labelling of Welsh meat products and how we can support the Welsh food industry.

WL

A MAGICAL MUSICAL EVENING BENEFITS BARNARDO'S CYMRU

Pictures by **MIKE WILCOCK**

THE Cowbridge branch of Barnardo's Cymru recently staged a musical fundraising evening in the Grand Pavilion, Porthcawl.

The charity welcomed the Welsh tenor, Wynne Evans, back on TV again in the Go Compare adverts, and he led the way in an evening of 'musical magic' – with the accent firmly on Broadway showtunes and filmswith music from Saving Private Rya, James Bond.

Fot the occasion, the Grand Pavilion had to remove a considerable number of seats, to make room for the full-scale orchestra and chorus, led by Gwenllian Haf Richards and conducted by David Hughes.

Mike Plowman was the chorus master.

The orchestra featured prominently in the evening, featuring music from *Saving Private Ryan, Ben Hur, James Bond,* and *Annie Get Your Gun,* to name just a few.

Wynne Evans' first song was Ivor Novello's 'My Life Belongs To You', and later in the show he sang, 'Granada' and 'Shenandoah'.

A 'graduate' of the Bridgend Youth Theatre, Charlotte Bruton, sang Sondheim's 'Broadway Baby' and Harmony Miller, another BYT regular, sang 'The Life I Never Led' from *Sister Act*.

The orchestra and chorus came together to close the show with the stunning 'One Day More' from *Les Miserables*.

The successful evening was made even more worthwhile when it was revealed that more than £6,000 had been raised for Barnard's Cymru.

Included in the picture are Gwenllian Haf Richards; Wynne Evans and David Hughes

SOCIAL BINGO

AFTER a good start last month following the hols, the next meeting is on Tuesday, October 1, as usual at Lesser hall in the Cowbridge Town Hall at 7 for 7.30pm.

Please turn up in force, not fogetting your Bingo Dabber, wine, and a few friends! There will be the usual valuable prizes and various prizes for the raffle.

The main prize last time was a meal for two at the Shampan – a delightful Indian restaurant. We are waiting for a full report on this experience, which we understand was excellent.

By the way, we always appreciate raffle prizes contributed by our members. See you on the night!

BASIL WATKINS

Jobs fears at St Athan

FOLLOWING a statement last week by UK Government Defence Secretary, Michael Fallon MP, about the uncertain future of No 4 School of Technical Training at MoD St Athan, the Vale AM Jane Hutt has asked him for a meeting – to raise concerns about the future of jobs and skills which may be lost in a possible move to RAF Cosford.

"I want to know exact numbers affected, and timelines for this move," she insisted.

The Big Screen

THE Big Screen at Cowbridge Town Hall will show *Dark Horse* on September 24 at 7.30pm.

The incredible true story of *Dream Alliance* is set in the village of Cefn Fforest, one of the poorest mining valleys in Wales.

When Jan Vokes, the barmaid at a local working men's club, overhears a regular talking about the time he owned a share of a racehorse, she decides to breed a racehorse of her own and goes into business with the regulars and her husband.

Together they buy a £300 thoroughbred mare and pair her with an aging stallion, then unite with 23 friends in the village who form a syndicate paying £10 a week to raise the resulting foal.

Raised on a slagheap allotment, to the astonishment of the racing elite, *Dream Alliance* grows up to be an unlikely champion, until one day disaster strikes...

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TRACTOR RUN IS HELD IN MEMORY OF LOCAL FARMER NICK JONES

PHOTOGRAPHS by GLYN EVANS

OTHER PICTURES ARE AVAILABLE FROM THIS EVENT.

Pictures can be purchased by contacting:

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Telephone 07791 228684
www.ffotoimage.co.uk

GLAMORGAN Iron Horse Vintage Society and the Tractor Boys of Aberthin held a tractor run last Sunday in loving memory of Nick Jones, a local farmer who died tragically in a farming accident. The drive started at Llanilid Farm in Pencoed and did a run of 25 miles, ending up in Brackla.

All proceeds from the run will go into a trust fund for Nick's two children.

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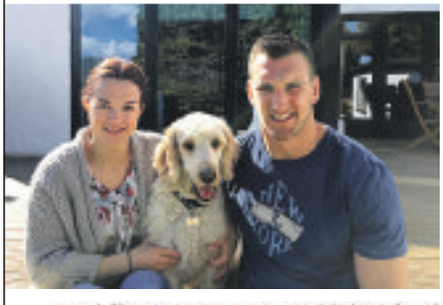

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Cowbridge Art Society

ON Thursday, September 24 the society begins its new programme of demonstrations, illustrated lectures and practical sessions with a demonstration by local artist Sara Davies of 'Charcoal with Coloured Chalk Pastels'.

On Thursday, October 1 there will be a demonstration by Pembrokeshire artist Guy Manning (*www.guymanning.co.uk*), a treescape in acrylics.

The society meets on Thursday evenings at the Old Hall, Cowbridge 7pm – 9pm; new members welcome.

For further details see www.cowbridgeartsociety.com.

Commuter's school fear

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The spokesman continued: "Road safety is of course very important and not an issue that should be taken lightly. This is why we will continue to work with the school to help them find a solution that meets their needs as well as those of others.

"In the meantime we would urge anyone passing Cowbridge Comprehensive School at busy times to ensure they drive safely and with consideration for both other motorists and pedestrians."

A spokesman for the school said the safety of pupils and staff on the Cowbridge Comprehensive School site was of paramount importance to the governors and staff at the school.

The spokesman said: "The school was relocated on a single site and opened in September 2010.

"Since that time, the number of pupils attending the school has increased and, as a result, the pressure on the site caused by increased parental traffic and school bus transport led to a decision to alter the original school arrangements for vehicular access.

"In January 2015, parents and vehicle users were informed of changes to access arrangements to the school.

"These were implemented in February 2015, allowing parents four weeks to explore alternative routes that would enable them to drop their children off safely.

"These included using the renovated pathway from the Town Hall car park in Cowbridge that runs directly to the school site.

"The new system allows vehicle (staff, parent and sixth form students) access to the site until 8.10am, when access is restricted to the 15 or more school buses and taxis.

"This restriction is in place until 8.30am when school starts. This allows for the safe entrance and drop-off of a large number of children and prevents pedestrians from potential near misses when mixed with parental traffic, as used to happen prior to the restrictions.

"We have taken every possible step to enable parents to safely drop-off pupils by car. What is unfortunate is that we have been met with a minority of road users who choose to ignore the standard traffic regulations and cause obstructions and therefore, are a hazard on the public highway."

COUNCIL HOLDS BACK ON CAR PARK CHARGES

PLANNED car parking charges for Barry and Cowbridge town centres are to be delayed, the Vale Council announced this week.

A report to cabinet in July had proposed the introduction of charges for the use of 146 spaces in Barry and 179 spaces in Cowbridge, 8 per cent and 22 per cent of the total spaces in each respective town centre.

However, following the feedback received from local traders, residents, and the council's economy and environment scrutiny committee, a decision has been taken to "reappraise some aspects of the proposal, including the viability of offering a period of free parking".

Llantwit councillor Gwyn John, cabinet member for visible services and leisure, said: "The introduction of car parking charges for the small proportion of spaces already identified in Barry and Cowbridge is still a necessity.

"However, in light of the feedback that we have received, particularly from scrutiny committee, I have asked for further work to be done to reappraise certain aspects of the proposals before a final decision is taken.

"The additional work to be undertaken will focus on two areas, the use of automatic number plate recognition technology and the viability of incorporating a period of free parking within the proposed charging arrangements," Coun John added.

The council says that due to central government cuts, it must meet a funding shortfall of £25m over the next three years. Although the proposed charges will generally raise money to fund the maintenance, operation and improvement of the car parks themselves, the rationale for introducing charges was "rooted in the need to increase the number of visitors and parking space availability to two of the Vale's town centres".

Parking surveys had shown that the majority of town centres spaces are not being used for short stays by visitors or shoppers but rather for longer stay parking, with many spaces often being occupied by the same car all day.

A council spokesman explained: "In Barry 40 per cent of vehicles in the Kendrick Road car park and 52 per cent of those in the Thompson Street car park stay for at least 4.5 hours. While in Cowbridge, 62 per cent of cars parked in the Town Hall car park stay for at least this length of time. All of the car parks for which charges being proposed are full or close to capacity for most of the working day.

"The introduction of charging is designed to free up those spaces closest to shopping centres for people planning on short stays."

Coffee time raises £751 for Macmillan

ON Friday, September 18, the team at David Evans Agricultural LTD hosted the Macmillan World's Biggest Coffee Morning, and raised £751.

DEAL's fundraising has totalled £1,866 to date and Macmillan fundraiser, Amy White, said: "The money raised by DEAL is invaluable to Macmillan; £1,020 could pay for a Macmillan nurse for a week, helping people living with cancer and their families receive essential medical, practical and emotional support."

For information or support relating to cancer, call Macmillan's Support Line on 0808 808 00 00 (8am to 8pm Monday to Friday) or visit www.macmillan.org.º. Contact the Fundraising Support Centre on 0300 100 2000 or email fundraising@macmillan.org.uk.

Mari brings the Welsh connection to life in her historical novel

THE Tudor dynasty has never been higher-profile than it is at the moment – the result of a series of books and films – but Llantwit Major's Mari Griffith is looking to tell the world of the Welsh connection!

Author Mari Griffith.

Mari's new historical fiction book, The Root of the Tudor Rose' focuses on the life of Catherine de Valois – the wife of Henry V – and in particular her relationship after Henry's death with a young Welshman, Owen Tudor.

There were six children from that relationship, the Tudors would become the rivals of the Plantagenets, and her grandson would become Henry VII. There is even a connection to Owain Glyndwr, who was Owen Tudor's great-uncle.

For Mari Griffith, writing a novel is a new departure after a life spent in music and TV here in Wales. GEM readers with long memories may recall a BBC Wales show *Poems and Pints* (1972 to 1978), presented by Max Boyce and Ryan Davies.

Mari was a regular guest on the show, reading poetry or singing folk songs. Ever since then, she has been associated with the BBC, either presenting or appearing in a wide variety of TV and radio programmes.

Mari told The GEM: "The Welsh played a great part in 15th century English history, and I wanted more people to know that."

She was born and brought up in Maesteg, went to Maesteg Grammar School, and then to Cardiff University. Folk music was her passion, and that led to work with the BBC. At one time, she was dividing her time between London and Cardiff, producing and appearing in schools' programmes, music series and combining that with presenting work

It was, she says, a "very busy time". Eventually, she settled in Cardiff with BBC Wales, and her continued involvement has seen her associated with putting on *The Cardiff Singer of the Year* and also Children In Need.

However, in 2007 she retired, settled in Llantwit Major and set about writing. She said: "The internet is a massive research tool for writers these days, and The Oxford Dictionary of National Biography is a wonderful resource."

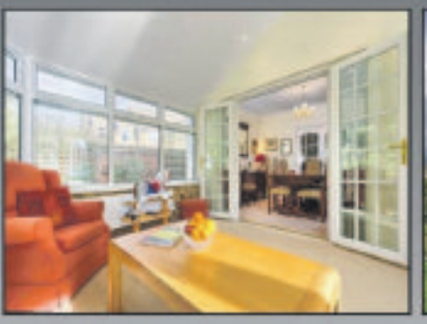
The story of Catherine de Valois has, says Mari, been told a number of times, but the Welsh connection has always been underplayed. She hopes that this book will redress that balance.

She is also grateful for the guidance of Bernard Knight, the pathologist and crime writer, who said: 'A stunning first novel...this new treatment of Catherine de Valois' story will be a delight to lovers of historical fiction.'

Alison Weir, bestselling author of 'The Six Wives of Henry VIII' said: 'Immensely readable and compelling… Highly recommended!'

Mari will be making a personal appearance at Nickelby's bookstore in Llantwit Major on Wednesday, September 30, at 7pm, where she will be talking about the book and answering questions. Entrance to the event is free, but numbers are limited, so anyone interested should contact Nickelby's on 01446 795166 to arrange to collect a ticket.

PHILIP IRWIN



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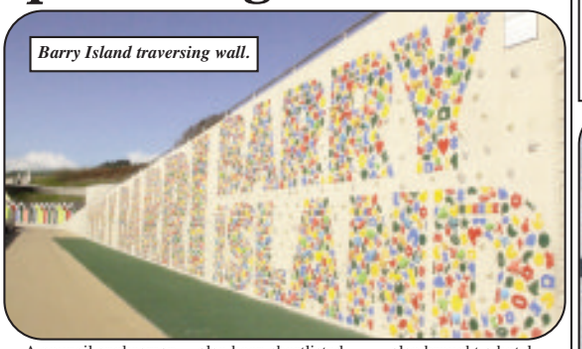
Two Vale projects in contention for national planning awards

The Pump House lettering being installed.



Barry Island traversing wall.

THE Vale boasts two of Wales' best examples of town planning, it has been announced.

The Vale Council's Eastern Promenade Regeneration Project, and the ongoing redevelopment of the hydraulic Pump House in Barry Waterfront, have both been shortlisted for a prestigious national planning award.

The council-led regeneration project at Barry Island, also shortlisted for a UK award earlier this year, has been named as one of nine finalists for the RTPI Wales Planning Award 2015.

A council spokesman said: "The work has brought easier access to the promenade and eastern beach, and a new water mist feature in the shape of ammonite fossils built below a covered events area.

"The most frequent praise has been reserved for the traversing wall designed by artist Gordon Young, and the sets of colourful beach huts, which are available for hire all year round."

The project has garnered wide coverage since its completion, being featured on ITV's *Coast and Country*, BBC's *The One Show*, and on various news broadcasts.

The conversion and renovation of the Hydraulic Pump House in Barry Waterfront, has also been shortlisted.

One of Wales' few remaining pumping houses and dating back to the 1880s, the building and its imposing chimney is a landmark.

The renovation is a high quality conversion of a grade II listed building and includes the creation of 15 new live/work/residential units on an upper floor, while the ground floor is being divided to create several commercial units.

A new pedestrian plaza and outside seating areas will also be constructed as the works near completion.

It is being delivered by local developer DS Properties, as part of the £30million joint venture between the Vale Council and Welsh Government that has also brought a hotel, family restaurant, medical centre, business premises, and a training centre to the town's former docks.

Coun Lis Burnett, cabinet member for regeneration, said: "For the Vale to have not just one but two separate projects shortlisted for this prestigious award highlights just how much regeneration work is under way. The rejuvenation of Barry Island has been a particular success and I am delighted to see the project shortlisted for yet another award.

"What is most pleasing, however, is that the regeneration of the area is set to continue.

"The renovation of the Pump House, a project that the council is delighted to have been a part of, is due to be completed soon – and there is much more to come!" Coun Burnett added.

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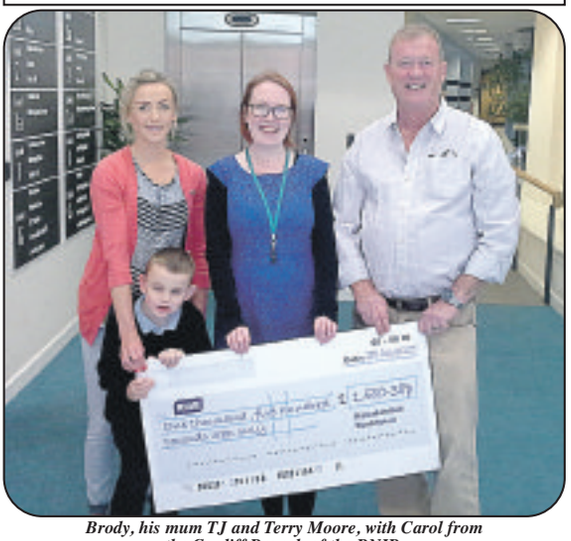
Family's 'thank you' Hawaiian Ball for RNIB



Brody, his mum TJ and Terry Moore, with Carol from the Cardiff Branch of the RNIB.

A HAWAIIAN Ball Event was held on August 28 at the Seashore Grill, The Spinney, Sully.

The event was organised by Terry Moore and Billy Davies in aid of the RNIB, which was chosen because Terry has a grandson, Brody, who was born blind with a very rare disease known as Norries. He also has scoliosis.

The evening was a great success with everyone in Hawaiian dress, and music supplied by the Travelling Murphys.

Terry Moore said: "Many thanks go to Mr Gordon Hadfield, owner of the Seashore Grill, and his son James, whose generosity made it all possible."

There were raffle donations from Gary and Karen Haigh, Ches and Anne (SET office supplies), Ian Rogers (who also supplied all the Hawaiian decorations from Hypervalue), Mike Davies and James Hadfield.

Terry added: "Everyone who attended had a wonderful time and thank you to everyone for contributing to a good cause, which will become an annual event.

"Of course another important mention would be the total amount raised for the RNIB – £1,500.38."

Ysgol Stanwell School

An invitation to attend Stanwell School's
Open Day 2015

Stanwell was inspected in May 2015 and awarded the highest rating of Excellent for all key questions by ESTYN. Inspectors praised the school's outstanding teaching and learning ethos and provision - please visit our website www.stanwell.org to view the full report.

We also achieve consistently excellent examination results. In 2015, 87% of pupils achieved 5 GCSE grades A*-C, inclusive of English and maths (Level 2+) with 96% achieving 5 or more A*-C GCSE grades. 92% achieved a C or above in English GCSE and 89% in maths. 87% of pupils achieved the core subject indicator (A*-C in English, maths and science). Results in the Sixth form are equally impressive, with A* to B grades (85% of entry), which increases to 71% of entry when the Welsh Bacc is included. Estyn states that 'pupils' performance in the Sixth Form is well above that seen in similar schools.

Extensive extra-curricular opportunities are also provided, with music, drama and sport all flourishing at Stanwell.

We invite all prospective pupils and parents for Year 7 and Sixth form to visit our open day on **Tuesday 6th October 3pm - 6pm** to meet staff and pupils and take part in activities.

Stanwell School, Archer Road, Penarth, Vale of Glamorgan, CF64 2XL | 02920 707633 | stanwell.org

Senior Health Shop services

DO you worry about your tax affairs?

Are you nervous about approaching The Inland Revenue? Age Connects Cardiff and Vale are holding a free tax advice session at The Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry, on Monday, September 28, 9.30am to 11.30am. Contact 01446 732385 for further information.

No appointment is needed, just come along and have a chat to the retired professional tax adviser. Home visits can be arranged.

Benefits

ARE you living in Vale and need advice or help on benefits such as pension credit, attendance allowance, housing benefit or disability living allowance (excluding private pension)?

Age Connects Cardiff and Vale run a free welfare rights service which can help you with any of these issues. An adviser will be able to talk on any of these issues and help with any form filling.

A session will be held on Tuesday, September 29, 9.30am to 11.45am, at The Senior Health Shop.

Equity release

AGE Connects Cardiff and Vale are holding an advice session on equity release at The Senior Health Shop on Tuesday, September 29, 10am to 12pm.

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'Re-appraisal of parking charges commonsense!'

Vale MP
Alun Cairns
reports to GEM readers

0.1% of what the Vale Council spends annually - that is the figure the Vale Council cabinet have been attempting to raise by introducing car parking charges in the handpicked towns of Barry and Cowbridge.

The local authority stated clearly that the primary aim of installing parking meters in our towns is to raise revenue for their own spending – and it has caused deep, deep concern across the Vale.

I was, therefore, pleased to see that this week the local authority has taken the necessary step of listening to the community and re-appraising any introduction of car parking charges.

At the time of going to press over 3,000 local residents have signed a petition against the introduction of car parking charges.

Traders have been left anxious that the future of our most cherished high streets could be under threat, and I fully understand their concern.

I have yet to meet a small business owner in Barry and Cowbridge that is in favour of such punitive charges, as they know how damaging such a blunt policy would be.

Over 100 small business owners, supporting hundreds of jobs, got together to call on the council to go through a genuine consultation process.

Local residents, traders and small businesses, some operated by generations of families, are what make our communities so diverse.

The damage that could be inflicted by introducing charges of up to £30 a week to park is simply unnecessary, as it would only raise a tiny amount in comparison to what the Vale Council spends annually.

If you were to ask most businesses if they could save 0.1% per annum on costs, they would seek more efficient ways of providing services to users.

The same process happens in households on every street in the Vale. The Vale Council could take the opportunity to reduce costs, do things differently – rather than take the easy option of loading costs on to our communities.

Local residents and traders have had to contend with inflation-busting rises in council tax over recent years, and I have been staggered by the strength of feeling on this issue.

The council can now listen to the different ideas to solve any parking problems that may or may not exist.

The people that live and work in and around car parks have some fantastic ideas. It is only right and fair that these are heard, considered and acted upon through a genuine consultation.

To their credit, local councillors of all political persuasions on the Scrutiny Committee voted unanimously to ask the cabinet to reconsider and consult on such damaging proposals.

The main aim of car parking changes should be to encourage our towns to prosper, and not interrupt the peaceful parking arrangements in residential streets.

That is why I have called, in several columns in this newspaper, for the local authority to pause, listen, and consult with the people who would have to live with such damaging parking charges.

I am pleased that this is now happening

Barry RAFA's charity concert is a success

HAVING to follow the very successful 'Showcasing the Youth of Barry' on King Square from September 12 was not going to be easy for the supporting RAFA concertgoers, but factors 'wow' and 'x', kept a knowledgeable audience spellbound at the concluding 'Wings Week' event on September 18 at Market Street Club, Barry.

Barry RAFA welcomed a young talented young vocalist, Kris-Tina, who combined a range of songs to match the varying age groups present for this special evening to raise funds for the welfare work of the Royal Air Forces Association.

The support of the young RAF trainees from MoD St Athan was very much appreciated by the branch, who also thanked Kris-Tina for the entertainment provided, the supportive audience, plus guests deputy Town Mayor Charlotte Williams and her husband Gareth, and Jane Hutt AM, for their continuing support.

On the night, £390 was raised through the generosity of the audience, the raffle, bingo, whisky roll and other donations.

For details of welfare support offered by the RAFA, contact welfare officer, Geoff Horton on 01446 740522, or go to www.rafa.org.uk.

If you wish to support the voluntary work of the branch, consider joining the monthly branch Lotto draw (details from Lynda 01446 740971, or Howard on 01446 418546). ***HP***

Enterprise award for college

CARDIFF and Vale College has won a prestigious National Enterprise Educators Award for its work to develop entrepreneurial skills.

The college was part of a team that scooped the prize for Further Education Enterprise Champions for the Trading Places project. The awards, organised by NCEE and and Enterprise Educators UK, celebrate and recognise organisations that have shown exceptional and inspirational commitment to supporting student and graduate entrepreneurship.

MEET YOUR LOCAL BOBBIES

DYFAN – Meet your local officers at Tesco store, Stirling Road, Barry on September 28 between 1pm and 4pm.

ILLTYD PACT – Aberthaw House Hotel, Porthkerry Road, Barry on September 28 at 3pm.

GIBBONSDOWN PACT – The Residents' Board Office, Coychurch Rise on September 29 at 10.30am.

RHOOSE Coffee and Chat – The Blue Anchor, East Aberthaw on September 29 at 11am.

Meet Your Local Officer – St Brides Major School, Heol Yr Ysgol on September 29 between 3.45pm and 4.45pm.

SULLY PACT – The Cricket Pavilion, Burnham Avenue, Sully on September 24 at 6.30pm.

LLANDOUGH PACT – The Royal British Legion, Penlan Road, Llandough on September 28 at 7pm.

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CONTACT US THE WEEK BEFORE WE ARE IN YOUR WARD

Students excel at St David's College

THREE of this year's year-11 St Richard Gwyn students have been awarded scholarships to attend St David's College, Cardiff for the next two years.

The students awarded the scholarships for outstanding work are Aleksandra Kamionka, Cerian Reynish and Rosy Ellis.

A spokeswoman said: "Students who shone at St Richard Gwyn and continued to excel at their sixth form college, St David's, for two years, were awarded with an abundance of prizes for academic excellence at the end of their studies – Angelina Hoyle and Isabelle Carter for geography; Isabelle Carter for biology; Angelina Hoyle for law; Jack Marshman for maths; Joseph Rose and Angelina Hoyle for Welsh; Catherine Frost for English and Joshua Almeida for film.

"Additionally, the St David's College award for outstanding dedication to academic enquiry across the curriculum was given to St Richard Gwyn student Akshay Petta together with a £40,000 scholarship to the London School of Economics. Congratulations to all!"

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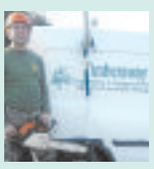

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EWE ARE SUCH A SURPRISE!

There was a very late arrival recently at the Wern Fawr Farm, Ystradowen when a beautiful baby ewe arrived, somewhat out of season, but mother and daughter are doing well out in fresh, green pastures. Farmer John Davies, who runs the Glam Lamb brand from the farm, said: "When you work as close to nature as I do, you never know what surprises and joy nature will give you."

Picture by **MIKE WILCOCK.**

Will Aid helps the Red Cross

SINCE being founded in 1988, Will Aid has enabled legal firms to raise over £17 million for the charities.

At the same time, the campaign has encouraged and helped thousands of people to write their wills. This year, we hope to raise even more than 2014's total of over £1.7 million.

The British Red Cross helps people in crisis, whoever and wherever they are. We are part of a global voluntary network, responding to natural disasters, conflicts and individual emergencies. We enable vulnerable people in the UK and overseas to prepare for and respond to emergencies in their own communities. And when the crisis is over, we help people to recover and move on with their lives.

"When writing a will, your first priority will of course be to provide for loved ones, but many people choose to also include a gift to a cause they feel passionate about. Leaving just one per cent of your estate to the British Red Cross could make an enormous difference to people in crisis.

"A gift in your will to the British Red Cross is a promise that help will be there for people in crisis, whatever the future may hold."

It is advisable to call your local solicitor soon to make an appointment, as Will Aid is a popular service – visit www.willaid.org.uk call 0300 0309 558, or email enquiries@willaid.org.uk to find a solicitor near you. Alternatively, contact me directly on 01823 273710 if you have any queries at all.

PAUL MORGAN, British Red Cross.

Give a Dinner down Memory Lane for Marie Curie charity

MARIE CURIE is calling all food fans in the area to hold a retro-inspired dinner party in aid of the charity this November.

Retro food is having a revival and Marie Curie's new fundraising campaign, 'Dinner Down Memory Lane', is about holding a dinner party and recreating your favourite nostalgic food.

Recreate time-honoured classics or put a contemporary twist on some old classics like Duck à l'Orange or Prawn Cocktail. The money raised from every dinner party will help Marie Curie provide more free care to people living with a terminal illness and their families.

Hannah Leckie, community fundraiser for Marie Curie, said: "We're really looking forward to seeing what the local community cooks up – whether it be a classic recipe from the past or putting a new twist on an old favourite.

"Holding a 'Dinner Down Memory Lane' is a great alternative to a normal dinner party and by inviting friends to make a donation in return for a dinner with a difference, you'll be helping Marie Curie Nurses to provide care and support to people living with a terminal illness and their families."

For more information and to sign up for a free fundraising pack, visit www.mariecurie.org.uk/dinner or call 0800 716 146.

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The Place for Homes celebrates 50 years

INDEPENDENT furniture retailer The Place for Homes is this week celebrating 50 years at their iconic furniture hangar in Llandow, Cowbridge.

"We're really proud to reach this milestone," said managing director, Rhian Francis, "and are marking it with a huge 50th anniversary sale which starts on Saturday, September 26 at 10am with 50 per cent off everything in our anniversary collection."

The company was founded in 1965 and was the original out-of-town store, being known throughout the local area as 'The Supermarket' and selling everything from paint, to toasters and sofas!

Graham Nelson, chairman, remembers it well: "I joined the business as an accountant in 1971, and didn't anticipate then that I would still be here five decades later."

New Home Warehouses became 'The Place for Homes' in 1986, with the Nelson family at the helm and the support of the legendary actor Leslie S Phillips, who remains the company's president.

In 2001, there were further changes as Rhian Francis, now MD and Rhys Nelson, sales director, two of Graham's children, joined the business.

A rebrand and extensive store renovation in 2007 saw the company moving forward with the launch of its e-commerce website:

"Retailing is changing and evolving, with a user-friendly website being an essential part of modern retailing, and for the first time making it easier for people to find us with the help of google maps and sat nav!" says Rhys.

"The Place for Homes has survived through the peaks and troughs of the UK economy since 1965, with customers that have been returning throughout the entire 50 years now bringing their children and grandchildren to buy furniture.

"None of it would have been possible without our fantastic team of employees, many of whom have also been with us for many years, in one case 47! I don't believe there are many companies that can say that!"

Although fashions have changed and the store has undergone huge refurbishment, Rhian explained:

"The main ethos and focus of the business hasn't changed – that of providing the very best customer service and value for money – and we're determined that this value will continue into the future, as we look forward to another 50 years!"

Recalling conscription...

THE speaker at last week's Barry Men's Forum was Colin Evans.

He spoke of his experience during the call up. Colin explained that when he got his call up papers, he had hoped to become a pilot in the RAF, but because he had a perforated eardrum, he failed the medical and would not be able to fly.

He was confined to the RAF ground crew for the duration of his national conscription. Peter Westcott the Chairman of Barry Men's Forum, also suffered a similar fate in the RAF when diagnosed with a perforated eardrum.

Anyone considered to be medically unfit would not be put into active service; an example of this was the famous English cricketer Colin Cowdrey.

He had flat feet so he was declared unfit for the armed forces call up.

However, he managed to score a hundred hundreds while playing cricket for England!

National Service existed from January 18, 1947 until December 13, 1962. All of Britain's young men between the age of 18 and 26 were required by law to serve a period of national service in HM's army, navy or the RAF.

The duration varied from two years to 18 months.

They were paid 28 shillings or £1.40p wages each week. The government reduced the period to 18 month, when Viscount Montgomery was transferred to NATO.

Young men from Northern Ireland and the Channel Irelands were excluded, but men from the Isle of Man were included.

There were several other exemptions, blind, mentally ill, coal miners, clergymen, university students, apprentices, farmers and food producers were all excluded.

The total number of men enlisted into the armed forces during this period was 2.3 million. This caused a decline in the national workforce and the output from many factories suffered.

There were several conflicts during and after the Second World War. Britain, as an Imperial nation, had to play a role in peace keeping throughout the world. British forces were stationed in Germany, India, East Africa, Palestine, Suez and Cyprus.

The Forum next meets on Thursday, October 12. David Tovey will be speaking on the topic 'For All The Tea in China'.

He owns a tea emporium in Monmouth and will be providing some tea samples, at Trinity Presbyterian Church Hall, Aberystwyth Crescent, at 10.15am. New members are welcome.

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Cloudy2Clear Windows – Service With A Smile!

It's been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has grown rapidly as homeowners take advantage of their services.

Branch Manager Phil Powell feels that it's all about service. 'Our product is simple. If your double glazing is misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 5 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people money, although that obviously helps. Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done. We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole.'

Cloudy2Clear service the Vale, Bridgend, RCT and Porthcawl areas and Phil is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. *'The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated.'*

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Report published on care of children in danger of suffering an early death

A MAJOR new report into the future needs of families in Wales whose children are expected to die in childhood was launched by Wales' Minister for Health and Social Services, Mark Drakeford.

The report, published by the University of South Wales' Welsh Institute for Health and Social Care and commissioned by Tŷ Hafan, is a system-wide review of the services available for children who need specialist care throughout their lives, highlighting the strides that have already been taken in Wales, and providing recommendations for improving the support available.

The report describes how the services required for children expected to die in childhood, and the support required by their families, differ considerably from adult end-of-life care.

The report suggests that at any one time, and excluding new-born babies, there are 1,050 children in Wales that would benefit from specialist paediatric palliative care, around 10 per cent of whom will die in any one year.

The relatively small numbers in need of care has, the report suggests, resulted in their needs becoming subsumed within a wider approach to palliative, and end-of-life, care.

The report praises the efforts of the Welsh Government and commends the Sugar Report of 2008, which is stated as being fundamental to moving children's end-of-life care forward.

It highlights the significant commitment across the NHS and from specialist clinicians, and describes how the system of care is built around a small number of highly committed individuals working across complex structures, and as such is fragmented and fragile.

The recommendations include developing a Paediatric Palliative Care Implementation Plan to run alongside the End of Life Implementation Plan, to better take account of the specific needs of children.

Authored by Professor Marcus Longley, Mr Jon Skone and Dr Cerilan Rogers, it draws on the full and active involvement of key stakeholders from the Welsh Government, NHS Wales, Local Health Boards, academia and the charity sector, notably Tŷ Hafan, Hope House Children's Hospices and Together for Short Lives.

Tŷ Hafan commissioned the report to gain insight into future needs and by furthering its partnership with the NHS and others hopes to continue to evolve world-class paediatric palliative care provision in Wales.

Professor Drakeford said; "I welcome Tŷ Hafan's commitment to working in partnership with the End-of-Life Care Implementation Board and the Welsh Government to drive forward key improvements to end-of-life care for children and young people in Wales."

Out of the estimated population of 1,054 children requiring palliative care in Wales, only around 105 will require end-of-life care during each given year, leaving a question mark over what support and service is currently being offered to the remaining 90 per cent of children with palliative care needs.

Tŷ Hafan's deputy chief executive, Jeremy Jackson, said: "Tŷ Hafan is committed to identifying all children in Wales who are expected to die in childhood and offer them, and their families, a comprehensive package of high-quality, free care and support. We cannot do this alone, we can do so in partnership and we welcome the collaboration and cooperation of all stakeholders that has made this report possible."

For more information on Tŷ Hafan and to read the report in full visit www.tyhafan.org.

Cardiff Then & Now, *in colour*

GEM columnist, Brian Lee and his daughter Amanda Harvey, who took the 'then' pictures, are delighted that The History Press has recently brought out a paperback version of their *Cardiff Now & Then in Colour,* which was first published in 2012.

From the 1860s, residents of Cardiff were commenting sadly on the rapid changes that were taking place and one local artist found a ready market for his views of disappearing landmarks.

What those long-gone residents would think of the Cardiff of today one can only imagine. This compelling book doesn't contain any artists' impressions – things have moved along a bit since then – but a selection of fascinating old photographs paired with modern ones, taken from the same spot as those photographers of a century or so ago.

Many of Cardiff's landmark buildings have been demolished, but luckily many also remain and are still recognisable.

Younger readers will be able to visit places of entertainment, work and worship that their parents or grandparents have told them about, while for older readers it will be a nostalgic walk down memory lane.

The Queen Street area of the capital city was well known for its abundance of theatres and cinemas, such as the Capitol, Empire, Olympia and Queens. These picture palaces no longer exist, but the reader of this fascinating book will now be able to see where they actually stood and what business or shop has replaced them.

Cardiff Then & Now In Colour is published by The History Press at £14.99.

BRIAN LEE

Council praised for staying close to home

PLAID Cymru councillor Ian Johnson has welcomed new figures published by Barry Town Council which show that 86 per cent of the council's bought-in services are from companies based in Wales.

Of the council's £484,513 spend on services, £96,999 was from companies in Barry, with a further £321,356 from other companies in Wales.

Coun Johnson said: "Where we can employ quality and high-standard local companies to provide services, then we are creating jobs and, through that employment money goes back into the local community and is spent on other services.

"I am pleased that Barry Town Council is already ahead of the game, with 86 per cent of our spend on services going to companies in Wales and 20 per cent of that going to Barry-based companies."

MUSIC IN THE VALE

MUSIC in the Vale will give a concert in the Senedd by invitation of Jane Hutt AM, on Thursday, September 24 from 5pm – 6pm.

Performing will be some of the finalists from the 2014 competition; anyone wishing to attend should contact Sue Taylor on 01446 781453 or 07836 324967.

This year's competition will take place in Stanwell School on November 14 and 15 and is open to all musicians, singers and instrumentalists aged 8 – 24. Closing date for entries is October 17 and performers must be UK residents. Further information from www.musicinthevale.org.uk.

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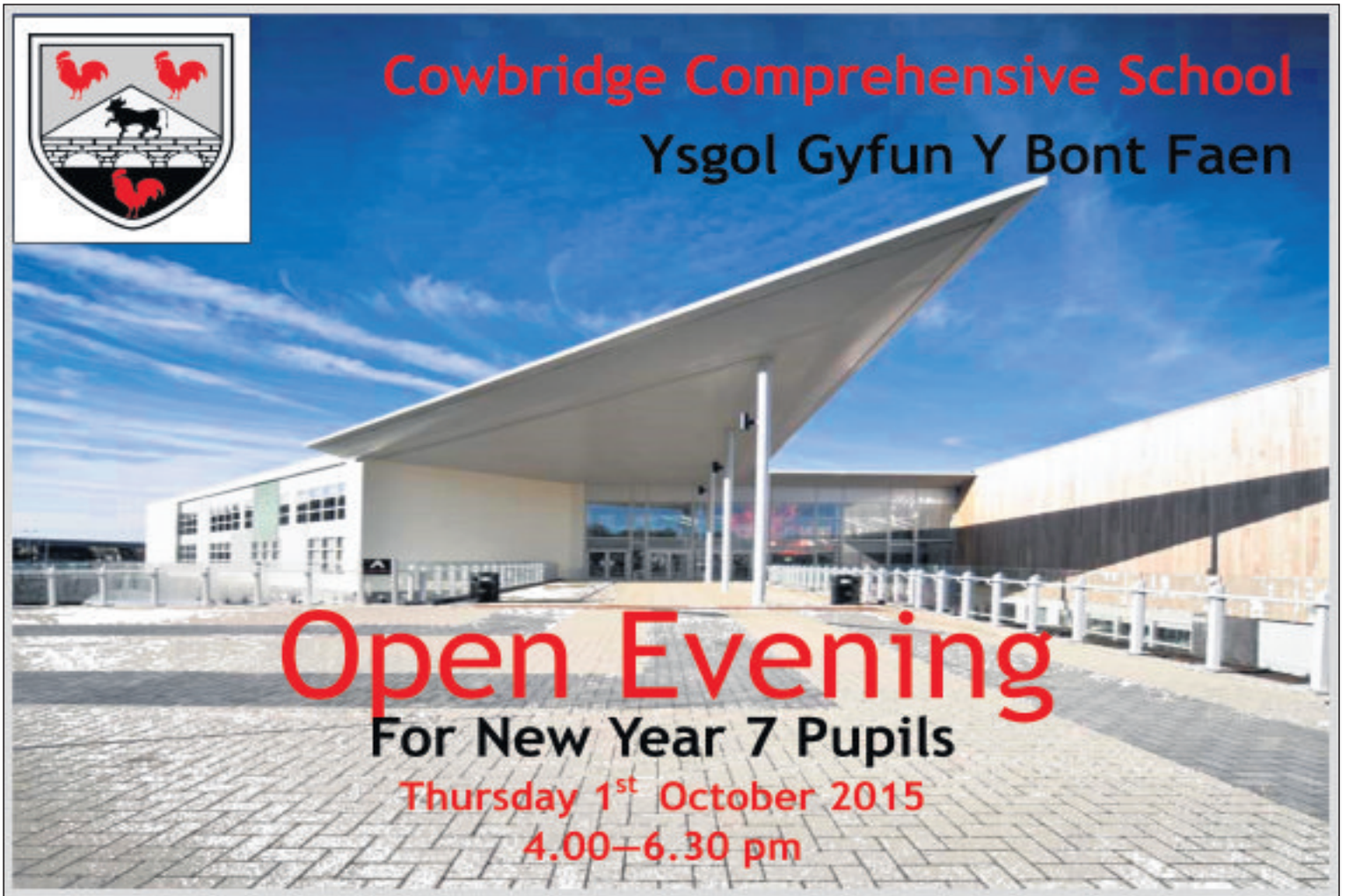

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'High Street Week' marked across Wales

HIGH Street Week is running this week and is the focus of a national campaign encouraging people to support their vibrant local high streets.

It started on Saturday, September 19 and there are events and fun family activities such food and craft fairs, children's activities, vintage days and street parties taking place across Wales.

The week is the focus of the Welsh Government's 'Support Your High Street' campaign, which raises the profile of Welsh high streets and recognises the valuable contribution they make to the economy and community life.

Minister for communities and tackling poverty, Lesley Griffiths, said: "Our high streets and town centres are a key part of the fabric of Welsh community life.

"They not only offer vital services and great produce, but also valuable places for family and friends to come together to socialise.

"This is why I am encouraging everyone to support their high streets and take part in the fun events and activities taking place up and down Wales this week."

Maria becomes an ambassador

WORLD first record holder Maria Leijerstam (37), from the Vale, has been selected as an 'Ambassador for Wales'.

The '2016 Year of Adventure' was launched on Tuesday at The Lookout, Hyde Park, London.

Maria who has competed world wide in adventure races across deserts and ice caps, became the first person in the world to cycle to the South Pole in December 2013.

Setting off from the same ice shelf as Scott and Amundsen, she also set a world human powered speed record and is now in the Guinness Book of Records.

To share her spirit of adventure, Maria set up the Burn Series Adventure Races in 2010 in Wales. The adventure racing company, with events in Cardiff and Swansea, attracts families and professionals from the UK and abroad as competitors test out their skills in a variety of adventure sports, all in one day.

"Adventure sport is about pushing boundaries and Wales has the perfect environment for exciting one day competitions," said Maria.

CALL FOR MORE AWARENESS OF RARE DISEASE

ECD IS an ultra-rare condition with no known cause and is very often misdiagnosed. The disease is considered a non-Langerhans histiocytosis, cancer-like (neoplastic) disease.

Virtually every organ can be involved. Each patient can have a different combination of organs affected. ECD is progressive, potentially resulting in organ failure, unless successful treatment is found.

More commonly affected are long bones, skin, lungs, brain, pituitary glands, kidneys, the abdominal cavity, the membrane surrounding the heart, and more rarely other organs.

Common symptoms of the disease may include bone pain, fever, night sweats, weakness, fatigue, excessive thirst and urination, balance issues, lower back pain, bulging of the eye/vision issues, rash, shortness of breath, heart issues, and increased susceptibility to infections.

Diagnosis is done in a variety of ways such as biopsies, bone scans, and urine testing.

Research is currently attempting to find best practices in diagnosis, and ultimately find a cure for the currently incurable disease.

The Eredheim Chester Disease Global Alliance (ECDGA) raises funds for medical research, providing the professional and student medical community, as well as patient community with informational material, and up-to-date information on research progress, treatment, and patient support.

A spokesman said: "Education is key to a promising future for someone living with ECD. Support those affected with this disease by getting involved with spreading the word about ECD, or making a donation to help the ECDGA's efforts."

To make a donation visit www.razoo.com/story/Ecd-Global-Alliance. To find out more about Erdheim-Chester Disease visit www.erdheim-chester.org where patient and medical resources from research papers, news and informational videos are available.

MPS' EXPENSES CLAIM TOTALS ARE RELEASED

The Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority (Ipsa) has released a summary of MPs' claims for the year 2014-15.

The expense claims include accommodation costs; office costs; staffing; and travel.

The top five claims in Wales were:

Alun Cairns, Vale of Glamorgan, £191,333.35.

Simon Hart, Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire, £186,766.73.

Hywel Williams, Arfon, £186,611.99.

Glyn Davies, Montgomeryshire, £184,059.93.

Owen Smith, Pontypridd, £183,689.31.

Other MPs in The Glamorgan GEM area were:

Madeleine Moon, Bridgend, £150,269.01

Huw Irranca-Davies, Ogmore, £175,401.66.

For more information, go to: www.parliamentary-standards.org.uk/Default.aspx.

Doctors say 'protect yourself with flu jab'

AS winter and the flu season approaches doctors and nurses are advising people with health conditions, pregnant women, the young and elderly to have their flu vaccination before the season hits.

Although very common and considered by some to be nothing major, flu can actually be very dangerous and put lives at risk especially if you are very young, pregnant, over 65 years of age or over six months of age and have an existing illness or health condition such as asthma, diabetes, heart disease.

Last year, over 100,000 people in the ABMU area had their flu vaccination.

Dr Sara Hayes, ABMU Director of Public Health, explains: "Flu is a nasty virus and affects people differently. Some people can carry the virus but have few symptoms. Others, who consider themselves fit and healthy can be hit for six by it and are unable to get up.

"But our greatest concern is for specific high-risk groups of people who if they catch flu can become so ill they need hospital care. Sadly, some people have even died because of it. This is why we provide a free flu vaccination and encourage those in a high-risk group to have their vaccination before the flu season begins."

One group is anyone over the age of six months who has an existing illness or condition such as asthma, cancer, heart disease, liver disease and diabetes.

Dr Hayes added: "Even if you only have a check up once or twice a year for your condition you are still at a greater risk from flu. It's so important you have the vaccination.

"The same applies to anyone over the age of 65 years, but in this case it doesn't matter if you have an existing illness or condition or you are as fit as a fiddle."

Further information about the flu vaccination can be found at www.abm.wales.nhs.uk/flu.

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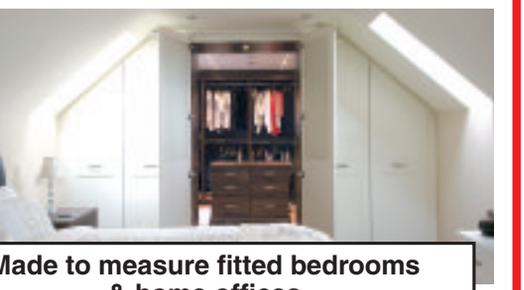

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Best of Barry youth showcased on town square

RAFA showcasing the youth of Barry.

KING'S Square on Saturday came to life with a 'Showcasing the Youth of Barry' event organised by the Barry Royal Air Forces Association, in partnership with the town Mayor, Vale Council departments and organisations that work with young people.

Opening the event was the High Sheriff of South Glamorgan, Heather Stevens and 372 (Barry) Air Training Corps of Drums marched through Holton Road shopping precinct, onto the square, to start the proceedings.

The High Sheriff praised the work of the individual youth organisations for their dedication and commitment to providing wonderful opportunities to our youngsters in the town.

Bro Radio were the Master of Ceremonies for the event, introducing the practical demonstrations in the centre of the square.

The Vale Youth Service VPOD bus drew a crowd to see their mobile youth provision, all kitted out to interest the young people and to promote youth clubs across the Vale.

The Barry Youth Action Group conducted feedback surveys among the youngsters coming along, to see what they would like added.

Barry Army cadets demonstrated what they could offer for interested youths, along with the Barry Sea Cadets who were keen to encourage their water activities. The disabled visitors were introduced to Jeff Savory, chairperson of Special Olympics Wales, fresh back from the Special Olympics World Games in Los Angeles, and joining him on the stall was his son James, with the silver medal he had won in Sprint Kayaking which was of great interest to visitors to the stall.

Pat Finch promoted her disabled swimming group that meets on a Saturday in the Barry Leisure Centre.

Sadly, the light drizzle prevented a safe exhibition of the HUB karate group, who would have demonstrated their martial arts.

But the most outrageous of all, which captured the imagination of all the youngsters, was Emma Mallan from Motion Control Dance (E-Motion). The square became packed with the free styling exhibition under Emma's skilled talents.

The Mayor of the town, Coun Emma Pritchard, was thanked for the wonderful support given to the RAF Association which allowed the event to become more than an idea.

She received a bouquet of flowers from one of the young participants involved in the event.

Geoff Horton, ***Barry RAF Association.***

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Out and About with The GEM

Mountain thriller manages to balance scale and emotion

by GARETH JAMIESON
Follow Screen Talk on Twitter – @GEMScreenTalk

MOUNT EVEREST is one of the most dangerous places in the world. The thrill and achievement of climbing it has been savoured by a few; however, many more have become casualties to the conditions and the exertion required to make it to the top and back down again.

One such attempt at climbing it, in 1996, is the source of the story in *Everest*, which sees an all-star cast (including Jason Clarke, Josh Brolin, Sam Worthington, Jake Gyllenhall) try their hand at conquering the mountain; however, when a snow storm hits, it puts the group in deadly danger, all the while their loved ones (including Keira Knightley) await news of their plight...

You know that if you watch a film called *Everest*, then it's going to be a film that won't be scrimping on scale. After all, the highest point in the world isn't something to be underplayed on the big screen.

The more pertinent question would be whether or not it be a case of scope over substance, foregoing the nuances of narrative and character in order to focus solely on wowing the audience visually, and the answer is, slightly befuddled conclusion aside, it does a pretty good job of marrying these two elements.

Director Baltasar Kormakur's previous films were the entertaining, if hollow, *Contraband* and decent action film *2 Guns*, neither of which indicated that he had something with far greater scope in him; his direction here is hugely impressive, capturing the scale of the mountain while also showcasing how deadly and beautiful it can be.

The direction is immersive, thrusting you right onto the mountainside (if you manage to watch the film without shivering at least once, you're a hardier soul than I) and keeping you there; first to admire the skill and determination of those who climbed the mountain, then to feel the horror and fear as their decline goes horribly wrong.

As you would imagine from a film written by two screenwriters with Oscar pedigree in Simon Beaufoy and William Nicholson, there is a greater level of quality in terms of how the characters are written and play out, far more so than your average disaster movie.

Each character is clearly marked with their own individual arcs that the writers service with aplomb, granting the film depth and resonance that the actors bring to life beautifully.

Jason Clarke's Rob, the head of the company who is guiding the walkers up Everest, is your everyman with noble intentions (attempting to generate publicity for the company through a magazine article, helping one of the climbers achieve his dream), a character Clarke essays with ease. Josh Brolin is your typical braggadocious Texan, pig-headed about getting to the top; Jake Gyllenhall the laid-back climber; while the chance to see personal favourites John Hawkes (as a postman with a desire to make real his aims) and Michael Kelly (as the journalist writing about the climb) in higher profile roles also appeals, the film not short on acting quality.

There is the sense that at times it plays its genre cards a little too broadly, several moments where you can sense what is going to go wrong and conspire against the characters and their aims of staying alive, but the biggest false move the film makes comes in its choice of whose view we see the film from.

The film makes such a point of following Rob's story, including tearful phone calls home to pregnant wife Keira Knightley from the beginning, that when it reaches an emotional crescendo, it suddenly moves focus onto another character's miraculous cheating of death.

There's nothing wrong with that, but what the latter character achieves means that the film could, and should, have been told from his point of view, with a subplot involving his family at home backing this up.

It's a misstep that pulls some of the emotion out of what is a saddening story made all the more terrible by its basis in fact, and means that while *Everest* drips with class and skill, come the conclusion you're left feeling a little flat.

VERDICT: An impressive film that engages and enthrals, *Everest* is grand in scope and scale but doesn't underplay or ignore the emotional core at the centre of the story. It loses direction a little come a conclusion that feels mishandled, but this aside it's a solid, visually spectacular piece of work. *Enjoyable*.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *Touching The Void* (2003), *The Poseidon Adventure* (1972).

NEW BALLET ACADEMY SETS UP IN BARRY

THIS autumn children and adults of Barry will be able to study ballet with the Royal Academy of Dance (RAD) at Superstars In The Making (SITM).

Local director and choreographer Christian Bullen has clinched a deal to bring RAD teacher Kimberley Tullock to teach grade classes in Barry.

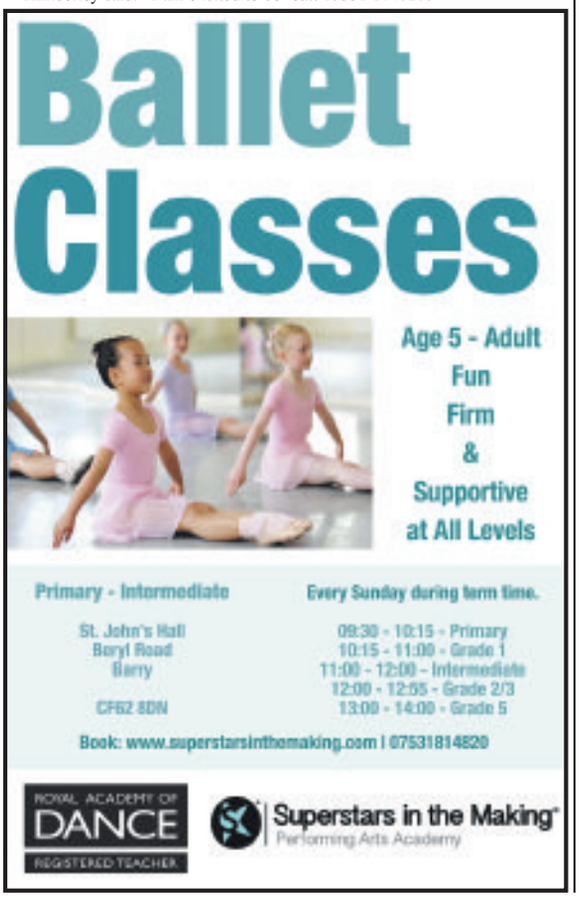
Kimberley trained at RAD in London for three years and has a vast amount of knowledge and experience to give.

Kimberley said: "I am excited to be joining the SITM staff and to be teaching the RAD syllabus to students who are completely new to ballet, and to those who have studied it in the past."

Classes will be taught with the SITM ethos of being fun but firm. Students are always fully supported to succeed and achieve their potential.

Classes are on Sunday mornings at St John's Hall, Beryl Road, Barry. Open to ages five to adult, beginners and experienced welcome.

Visit www.superstarsinthemaking.com or call 07531 814820.



WHAT'S ON IN BRIEF

CRIME writer Ann Cleeves is in Penarth this afternoon (Thursday) to launch her latest book *The Moth Catcher.*

The event takes place at 2.30pm in All Saints Church, Victoria Square; entry £5 including refreshments and £5 book discount.

Denim Snakes concert

BARRY West End Club will host the Denim Snakes on September 26 at 7.30pm.

The band, featured on Radio Wales, have been busy recording their latest single.

This is a free event, with local artists Patsy Hunt and Jack Ellis Music the two supporting acts.

Amelia Trust family day

ON Saturday, September 26, the Amelia Trust farm charity will be celebrating its harvest season with its annual family fun day.

The fun starts at 11am and runs until 5pm (£5 per car). There will be tractor rides, live music, children's games, interactive displays.

At 3pm there will be a dog show sponsored by Pets At Home, Bridgend.

Categories include fancy dress dog and owner; best child and junior handlers; most obedient, and best puppy.

Each dog show class costs £1.50 to enter.

For more information see website www.ameliatrust.org.uk or call 01446 782030.

'The Hospice' open to public

THE Hospice' (St John's House) at Newcastle Hill, Bridgend, a protected Grade II listed building, will be open to the public on the weekend of September 26-27.

Meibion y Ddraig/Sons of the Dragon will be at the house demonstrating their archery skills and equipment; www.sonsofthedragon.co.uk/Home.html.

There will be an opportunity to try medieval games and to view the house either by guided tour or simply by having a walk round.

Bridgend History Society will be displaying pictures about the town's history hosting a walk from 'The Driving School Building', Angel Street on Saturday, September 26 at 11am, to finish at St John's House.

Also on display will be artist's impressions of the house when completed.

The property will be open from 10am-4pm each day.

Lavernock harvest service

A SERVICE of harvest thanksgiving will take place at the former Church of St Lawrence, Fort Road, Lavernock on September 27 at 3pm.

All are welcome to this traditional harvest service, free parking on Fort Road.

All enquiries to Rev Margaret Stark, on 029 207013.

Valeways guided walks

ON Sunday, September 27 there will be an autumn walk starting from St Peter's Church, Mill Road Dinas Powys at 2pm.

On Wednesday, September 30, the Coffee Shop Strollers start from Cosmeston Visitor Centre at 10.30am.

Toy and train sale

THE Barry Toy and Train Sale takes place on Sunday, September, 27 at 10.30am-3pm in Barry Leisure Centre, Greenwood Street, Barry, CF63 4RU.

The sister Cardiff Toy and Train Sale will be taking place at Penarth Leisure Centre on Saturday, October 10.

Organiser Chris Dyer said this week: "This Barry show is already almost fully booked, with traders and 'house full' expected by the day of the sale."

Contact 01643 702757; 07966 694579/ OR www.chrisyderfairs.co.uk.

Food Hygiene course

BARRY Communities First are running a Food Hygiene course, free to residents living in Buttrills, Cadoc, Castleland, Court and Gibbonsdown.

It takes place on Monday, September 28 from 9.30am – 4pm at Castleland Community Centre, Belvedere Crescent, Barry.

For more information or to book a place, contact 01446 709432 or email communitiesfirst@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk.

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'Faceup Cymru' charity aiming to help the local specialist cancer unit

by PHILIP IRWIN

WALES rugby captain Sam Warburton has given his backing to a local charity which works in the complex field of facial cancers.

He has become a patron of Faceup Cymru, the head, neck and oral cancer foundation, which has for 20 years raised funds to support patients and their families as they deal with the trauma of a facial cancer diagnosis.

It would be a macabre exercise to rank cancers in degree of trauma. After all, any patient hearing that word from his consultant faces the same shock brush with mortality.

However, for someone with a facial cancer, there is the further trauma of wondering: "If I survive, what will I look like?"

For those diagnosed with cancers of the throat and larynx, there is also the fear that they could lose the power of speech.

Mr Michael Fardy is a Consultant Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon for the Cardiff and Vale Trust, and he often has the task of explaining to a patient just what their treatment will involve.

He said: "In the case, for instance, of cancer of the jaw, I have to explain that I, or my colleague, Mr Cellan Jones, will have to cut away their jawbone – and then cut bone from their lower leg bone to rebuild their face."

To get to this level of expertise, Mr Fardy and Mr Jones have had to train for 17 years. The career path is to take a degree in dentistry, and then take a medical degree – followed by qualifying as a surgeon and finally as a maxillofacial surgeon.

He said: "In so many cases, the trauma of that initial consultation is such that, by the time the patient gets home, he or she can't remember a thing.

"As a result, the charity worked with the local health board to produce a DVD that would enable the patient to take everything in when they returned home.

"Over the last 20 years, the charity has funded extra members of the team - a clinical nurse specialist, a dietician and a speech and language specialist."

Recently, a number of new trustees decided to get involved, and this has resulted in a new website, *www.faceupcymru.org.uk* and there is no shortage of areas where the team could put cash raised to good use.

In recent months, there has been increased fundraising activity. Three consultants from the Dental Hospital – Phil Atkin; Nick Drage and Liam Addy took part in the inaugural Wales Velothon on June 14. Nick and Liam completed the 140 Km and Phil did 50 Km, and they raised over £500.

At the same event, Faceup Cymru supporter Leighton Bush raised more than £1,000.

Two charity dinners at the Copthorne Hotel were held in August and September, and the charity thanks the hotel's staff and chefs for their support.

A charity curry extravaganza at the Purple Poppadom restaurant in Canton, Cardiff, under Anand George's expertise on June 29, raised a total of £3,900.

Future events include a Faceup Halloween Party at Penarth Conservative Club on October 31 (details are available on the charity's website).

Another major fundraising effort is on October 31, when a former patient of the unit, Joanne Hawkins, will be leading a charity walk up Mount Kilimanjaro.

Three years ago, Joanne was diagnosed with a facial and neck cancer. Her treatment was extensive, and extremely stressful, but she has come through and decided to join Sam Warburton as a patron of Faceup Cymru.

She said that the Kilimanjaro trek would be "another massive challenge" and that she hoped to raise £50,000.

For more information on Faceup Cymru, go to www.faceupcymru.org.uk

Young people welcome bus 'mytravelpass'

THE new 'mytravelpass' entitles young people aged 16 – 18 to a third off bus fare prices in Wales.

Vale AM Jane Hutt met last week with young people in Barry, Michaela Richardson and Ted Perkes who welcomed the move by the Welsh Government.

"The 'mytravelpass' shows our commitment to supporting young people and ensuring that they are able to access jobs and training opportunities in Wales as easily as possible, " she said.

PIANO RECITAL

LEANNE Cody, a recent finalist in the Music In The Vale competition is giving a piano recital at Stanwell School on Friday, November 13 at 6.30pm. Tickets will be available on the door.

Penarth teacher wins memory silver medal

A WELSH teacher narrowly missed out on being crowned UK Memory Champion.

James Paterson teaches a pupil memory techniques at LVS Ascot.

James Paterson, who grew up in Penarth, won the silver medal at the UK Memory Championships in London, which saw him rank number two in the UK, while also regaining his Welsh Memory Champion title.

James began honing his memory skills when a pupil at Stanwell School in Penarth, and now puts his skills to good use at LVS Ascot, a leading all-ability day and boarding school in Berkshire, where he teaches psychology.

He also finished second in 2014, and while this year he finished ahead of last year's winner Ben Pridmore, he was agonisingly pipped to the title by Marlo Knight from London.

There was good reason for James to celebrate though as he set a new UK record in the process by memorising 242 random words in order in 15 minutes, beating his own previous mark of 224 words.

Garden charity day

THE public is invited to join the Barry Community Garden in Gibbonsdown for coffee and cake on Friday, September 25 – to raise funds for the Macmillan charity.

Located next to Pencoedtre Splash Park, off Dyfnallt Road in Barry, the event will take place at the garden between 10am-12pm.

The Barry Community Garden plans to run a workshop on making furniture and planters from wooden pallets and will also hold a Christmas celebration in December.

Contact Lisa Williams on lisa.williams@newydd.co.uk or call 07501 468694.

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The foil that helps create the textured appearance of timber is continued throughout the window, including the reveal at the edge of the frame.

To maintain the period appearance it's important to choose the correct colour and finish. The Heritage range comes in a number of classic shades as well as natural finishes including English and Silvered Oak. It's this attention to detail that has helped the Heritage range win the approval of planning officers*.

*Conservation guidelines vary between local authorities, so it is advisable to check for your specific area.

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Christmas Party Guide

TOWN OR COUNTRY? There's plenty of choices for your Christmas outing!

THERE is a lot to be said for planning an office Christmas party as a real outing, and in the Vale and Bridgend areas, that can mean a trip into one of our towns or out into the country.

So many venues – be they country pubs, hotels or establishments in small villages – are now tuned into welcoming Christmas parties, and they have become skilled at meeting all requirements.

Naturally people want to enjoy a few drinks at a party so it makes sense to hire a mini-bus so no-one has to drive home.

A mini-bus or coach can be part of the build-up to the evening. It can increase the 'buzz' and camaraderie, getting everyone relaxed and in a party mood before you set foot in the venue.

So much has changed over the years when it comes to dining.

Twenty years ago many establishments had very predictable styles of cuisine.

Country pubs and public houses in towns would serve up something traditional and wholesome, like a roast dinner perhaps, followed by a dessert of trusty Black Forest gateau or ice-cream.

Now the culinary landscape has been transformed, the chefs have escaped the confines of conformity and are keen to create their own 'specials' and something that bit different.

Competition has meant an improvement in quality across the board.

Nowadays, menus are put together that have an excellent chance of satisfying the varied tastes of any random group of diners-out.

As customers have become more discerning – and this may well be due to all the Masterchef-style programmes on TV – so local chefs have responded.

So make that choice. Do you want an evening out in a local town – a restaurant or hotel perhaps?

Or maybe the relaxation of the country pub is more appealing to your family or fellow office workers.

Venues are already producing their Christmas menus and making arrangements for entertainment. So do your research, make your choice, and then you can relax for the Autumn, content that the office Christmas party is sorted out and there will be no last minute rush.

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FRIENDS RALLY TO SUPPORT BRAVE SIAN'S 'WALK OR WATER' FUNDRAISER

PHOTOGRAPHS by ANDY WICKS
Telephone 07855 374478

ON Saturday, September 19, nearly 500 friends, family members, colleagues and fundraisers walked and 'canoed' the 9km from Fontygary in Rhoose to Barry Yacht Club in support of an inspirational mother's fight against cancer.

All the money raised will be donated to Velindre Cancer Centre.

Sian Laycock's *'Walk or Water'* event was organised by her close friend Sarah Thomas, and supported by friends and family.

A total of 470 adults and children registered to take part (with more on the day) aiming to raise money for the *Leading Lights Appeal* which supports specialist nurses, and *The Pink Appeal* which funds breast cancer research and care at Velindre Cancer Centre.

Sian was overwhelmed by the support shown.

Her battle against cancer started in 2011 when she was first diagnosed with breast cancer, and after two operations, five months of chemotherapy and a year of hormone treatment she thought her life was back to normal.

In 2014, however, after suffering a fractured rib at a sponsored 10k swim, she received the devastating news and was diagnosed with secondary breast cancer.

"My family and friends have been amazing throughout and I feel so lucky to have such amazing people around me. I am the proudest mother, wife, sister, and daughter ever."

Sian explained: "My treatment has been constant and an emotional roller-coaster. My consultant, the staff and my specialist breast nurse at Velindre have eased the burden of coping with my illness. Their support has been invaluable. This is why it was easy to choose to thank Velindre."

Andrew Morris, head of fundraising at Velindre, said: "To recruit 500 people to support you on a sponsored walk is an incredible effort, but then Sian is an incredible person.

"This response just shows the huge respect that she is held in by so many people. The money raised from this event will allow us to continue to fund our Leading Lights and Pink Appeals ensuring that the best possible care and support is provided to patients and their families dealing with cancer in Wales".

*You can support Sian and her friends by sponsoring them at: h**ttps://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/sianswalkorwater**. For more information on Velindre, go to: **www.velindrefundraising.com/victoryovercancer.***

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Llantwit Major under-11s show their hunger!

ON a lovely Sunday morning Llantwit Warriors welcomed Llantrisant under-11s.

The match was a hard hitting and very fast paced game.

The Warriors started the match strongly, opening up the field with some great rucking and quick play, creating space for players to get through Llantrisant's defence to score tries.

Just before half-time Llantrisant made an fantastic interception and left the Warriors standing to score their first try of the match.

At half-time the score was Warriors 5, Llantrisant 2

The players started the second half running hard and took the Warriors by surprise and quickly scored some lovely running tries.

Both teams were playing brilliantly; the tackles that were being made were awesome.

Llantrisant were making the Warriors defence work hard and were able to score two more tries to take them in front with only five minutes left on the clock.

In the last few minutes of the game, the Warriors passed, played, rucked and tackled everything that came their way.

They were determined to score and finish the match at least level, if not with a win, and their hard work paid off.

With only a minute left on the clock the Warriors were able to push over the line to level the score at 6-6.

The Warriors kept their cool, even when they were behind and played some great rugby.

Try scorers: Iwan, Tomas, Logan, Dylan M (2) and Aneurin.

Squad: Olly Williams, Evan Harris, Dylan Morgan, Corey Lougher, Tomas Roberts, Owen Hill, Logan Pike, Rhys Davies, Iwan Thomas, Cristian Parry, Jamie Jenkins, Caleb Beare, Aneurin Price and Dylan Wright.

SR

The Barry and District ladies' skittles results

LATEST results for week commencing September 7:

First division: Special Angels (J Abram 30) 228, SV Gals (D Manning 30) 279; Space Finders (M Clark 42) 348, Bobby's Girls (A Secdon 30) 299; Coppers (D Nesbitt 34) 314, Colcot Ladies (S Howcroft 40) 334; Baker's Dozen (K James 28) 257, Breakaways (B Thurston 31) 246; Cigar Ladies (L Coleman 30) 299, Barry Stars (C Lambeth, S Philip, S Hopkins 28) 289; Castle Bandits (M Cooper 28) 256, Family and Friends (J Walden 25) 215.

Second division: Cad Con Fillies (M Boulter, S Chilcott 22) 221, Pila Palas (A Williams, S Bennett 23) 218; Castaways (R Byrne 28) 279, Rhoose Ravers (C Bagnall 31) 243; Vixens (T Hatton 30) 312, Witchill Widows (S Muray, G McCarthy 31) 307; Little Devils (D Harrhy 25) 223, SV Lights (P Snook 27) 217; After Eights (P Mepham 33) 270, Clickies (E Walters 31) 301; Red Admiral (S Hayes 25) 234, Merry Makers (C Edwards, G Hawkins 23) 220.

Third division: Hill Billies (M Brinkworth 34) 314, Rugby Triers (S Cogbill 32) 323; Persuaders (F Organ 28) 224, Etcetera (C Mackintosh 23) 222; Westenders (J Jey7nes 24) 203, Airways Angels (M Carpenter 27) 247; La Belles (J Williams 37) 315, Divas (C Jenkins 33) 252; Fallen Angels (T Lawrence, C Jones 25) 245, Twilights (S Davies 24) 234; Friends and Neighbours (C White, E Western 24) 242, Dolly Mixtures (G Burdge 28) 267; Roller Coasters (T Saunders, S Jones 25) 224, S V Ladies (F Butler 25) 230.

Fourth division: Challengers (J Jones 33) 313, Guardian Angels (D Ling 34) 295; Rebels (S Williams 26) 189, Aristocats (T Weston 26) 211; Uptown Girls (H Hawkins 27) 253, Nite Outers (M Hudson 27) 199; Off The Rails (L McCormack 27) 219, Hell Raisers (J Ellett 26) 214; Liberals (A Crane 26) 188, Witches (L Carey 29) 234; Socialites (P Todd, S Marks 31) 269, Optimists (S Bond 29) 274; Livin on the Spare – bye.

MACMILLAN COFFEE

RAINBOW Women's Group is holding a Macmillan coffee morning to be held on Friday, October 9 from 11am-2pm at Margaret Alexander Community Centre, Alexander Crescent, Barry, CFR62 7HU.

The chairman of the group, Basma Ihbasheh, said there is a warm welcome for everybody.

For more information, contact 0788 6540919 or 01446 677641.

What's on, and where in your area?

Ivor Stokes at the Llantwit Major Horticultural Society

AN illustrated talk by Ivor Stokes, knowledgeable plantsman and former Director of Horticulture at the Botanic Garden of Wales will take place at 7.30pm in the Llantonian Hall (off the Boverton road, behind the library) on September 30.

The speaker is an expert on rhododendrons, camellias and magnolias.His subject will be the history and management of woodland gardens.

Admission is free; all welcome.

Pampering/fashion show

ON Thursday, October 1, the Vale 50+ Strategy Forum is celebrating International Older People's Day by holding a fashion show/pampering/info event in the main hall of the Memo Arts Centre, Gladstone Road Barry, CF62 8NA, from 10am until 3pm.

Clothes provided by a well-known local fashion chain will be modelled by 50+ models. Sing along with a choir, taster sessions on a range of pampering activities including head and hand massage, reflexology and Tai Chi. Try out laptops and tablets, visit a range of information and advice stalls.

Free admission and refreshments, all ages are welcome.

Rhoose bingo

A FUNDRAISING bingo afternoon will be held at Rhoose Community Hall in Stewart Road on Saturday, October 2; doors open at 1.45pm for a 2.30pm start. *There will be a raffle and light refreshments at the half-time break, as usual.*

Cowbridge Apple Day

COWBRIDGE Farmers' Market is hosting an apple pressing event on Saturday, October 3 from 9.30am – 12.30pm in Arthur John's car park.

Bring your apples and containers along, and take away the juice for drinking or cider making! A half-full 'bag for life' will yield roughly one litre of juice.

Volunteers to help on the day would be appreciated.

If you have an apple tree with surplus fruit, help may be available to harvest them. Contact Harvest Cowbridge on 07890 407670 for details.

Rhoose Art Group

THE annual exhibition and sale of paintings will be held on Saturday, October 3 from 11am – 5pm in the community hall, Stewart Road, Rhoose CF62 3EZ.

South Wales Shadows Club

MEET at the Conservative Club, Stanwell Road, Penarth on October 13 from 8pm.

Bring your guitar, PA system available and licensed bar; all welcome.

'Come and Sing!'

COR Bro Ogwr are looking for new recruits to 'come and sing' on Saturday, October 17.

The programme will contain songs from the musicals, opera choruses, Welsh songs, Handel, and a short classical piece that the choir is currently learning.

'Come and Sing' will take place at 12.30pm at Tarbernacle Church, Derwen Road, Bridgend.

For more information call 01656 653326 or www.cor-bro-ogwr.com.

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL • CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG

Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act, 1990

Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) Order 2012

Development that may affect a Conservation Area/ Datblygu a allai effeithio ar Ardal Gadwraeth

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2015/00960/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Development of 120 homes including affordable homes, new vehicle, pedestrian and cycle access, improvement works to Pendoylan Lane, regrading of site, drainage, landscape works, provision of public open space, demolition of existing modern timber stables and all associated works
Location:/Lleoliad: Land at Sycamore Cross, Pendoylan Lane and North of A48, Bonvilston
Conservation Area:/
Ardal Gadwraeth Bonvilston

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2015/01030/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Proposed four detached dwellings
Location:/Lleoliad: Court Farm, Bonvilston
Conservation Area:/
Ardal Gadwraeth Bonvilston

Listed Building Consent/Caniatâd Adeilad Rhestredig

Application No:/Rhif y cais: 2015/01017/LBC
Proposal:/Cynnig: Proposed builder's maintenance work to the existing pitched flat roofs
Location:/Lleoliad: Tudor Tavern, Church Street, Llantwit Major
Listed Building:/
Adeilad Rhestredig Grade II

Application No:/Rhif y cais: 2015/01018/LBC
Proposal:/Cynnig: Add new air conditioning heat pump system with new indoor wall units and external condensors
Location:/Lleoliad: Tudor Tavern, Church Street
Listed Building:/
Adeilad Rhestredig Grade II

Application(s) of General Interest/ Ceisiadau o Ddiddordeb Cyffredinol

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2015/00928/RG3
Proposal:/Cynnig: Proposed new junction and road section between Cross Common Road and Cardiff Road, Dinas Powys
Location:/Lleoliad: Cross Common Road, Dinas Powys

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2015/00954/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Construction of small retirement complex of two and three storey linked cottages and flats with communal resident and guest facilities, parking and garden areas
Location:/Lleoliad: Bryneithin Home for the Elderly, St. Andrews Road, Dinas Powys

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2015/00960/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Development of 120 homes including affordable homes, new vehicle, pedestrian and cycle access, improvement works to Pendoylan Lane, regrading of site, drainage, landscape works, provision of public open space, demolition of existing modern timber stables and all associated works
Location:/Lleoliad: Land at Sycamore Cross, Pendoylan Lane and North of A48, Bonvilston

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2015/01001/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Proposed continued implementation of planning permission No. 1999/00957/FUL without compliance with condition No. 2
Location:/Lleoliad: Wenvoe Quarry, Wenvoe

May affect a Public Right of Way Gall effeithio ar Hawl Tramwy Cyhoeddus

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2015/00703/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Barn conversion to holiday chalet
Location:/Lleoliad: Tyn Y Tranch Farm, Lane - Cottage Road - Jct Tyn Y Pant to Jct New Forest Reservoir, Ystradowen.

Application(s) with Environmental Statement/ Cais (au) gyda Datganiad Amgylcheddol

NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 8

Proposed development at Land at Sycamore Cross, Pendoylan Lane and North of A48, Bonvilston.

I give notice that Bonvilston Vale Limited & Village Homes LLP is applying to The Vale of Glamorgan Council for Planning Permission to Development of 120 homes including affordable homes, new vehicle, pedestrian and cycle access, improvement works to Pendoylan Lane, regrading of site, drainage, landscape works, provision of public open space, demolition of existing modern timber stables and all associated works.

The proposal has been submitted with an environmental statement which can be inspected at the address given below. Members of the public may obtain a hard copy version of the environmental statement at a charge of £233.00, or a CD copy at a charge of £15.00 from Barton Willmore, Greyfriars House, Greyfriars Road, Cardiff CF10 3AL so long as stocks last.

Members of the public may inspect copies of:

- The application.
- The plans.
- The environmental statement.
- Other documents submitted with the application.

at the address given below during all reasonable hours until 15 October, 2015.

Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should write to the Head of Planning and Transportation at the address given below by 15 October 2015 quoting reference 2015/00960/FUL.

HYSBYSIAD O DAN ERTHYGL 8

Datblygiad arfaethedig yn Land at Sycamore Cross, Pendoylan Lane and North of A48, Bonvilston

Hysbysir trwy hyn Bonvilston Vale Limited & Village Homes LLP n gwneud cais i Gyngor Bro Morgannwg am Ganiatâd Cynllunio ar gyfe Development of 120 homes including affordable homes, new vehicle, pedestrian and cycle access, improvement works to Pendoylan Lane, regrading of site, drainage, landscape works, provision of public open space, demolition of existing modern timber stables and all associated works

Cafodd y cynnig ei gyflwyno gyda datganiad amgylcheddol sydd ar gael i'w ddarllen yn y cyfeiriad isod. Members of the public may obtain a hard copy version of the environmental statement at a charge of £233.00, or a CD copy at a charge of £15.00 from Barton Willmore, Greyfriars House, Greyfriars Road, Cardiff CF10 3AL so long as stocks last.

Caiff aelodau o'r cyhoedd hefyd ddarllen copïau o'r:

- cais;
- cynlluniau;
- datganiad amgylcheddol;
- dogfennau eraill a gyflwynwyd gyda'r cais,

yn y cyfeiriad isod yn ystod oriau rhesymau tan 15 October, 2015.

Dylai unrhyw un sydd am wneud sylwadau ar y cais ysgrifennu at Bennaeth Cynllunio a Chludiant y cyngor (gwelwch y dudalen ar waelod y dudalen) erbyn 15 October 2015 an ddyfynnu'r cyfeirnod 2015/00960/FUL.

Details may be inspected for 21 days at the address given below, or via **http://vogonline.planning-register.co.uk/**

Gall manylion eu harchwilio am 21 diwrnod yn y cyfeiriad a roddir isod, neu drwy **http://vogonline.planning-register.co.uk/**

Dated / Dyddiedig: 24 September, 2015

M. Goldsworthy
Operational Manager Development & Building Control,
Vale of Glamorgan Council, Dock Office, Barry. CF63 4RT

THE OLD RECTORY CARE HOME, WENVOE

AWARD-WINNING OLD RECTORY CARE HOME

Providing top quality care in a family atmosphere

THE Old Rectory Care Home in Wenvoe, which cares for people with dementia, is celebrating its 30th birthday.

A strong family ethos and award-winning staff have been keys to its success over the decades. Mrs Mei Richards, the co-owner, said: "The Old Rectory had always been a private home until 1985 when my husband's mum, Beryl Richards, started the care home with one resident.

"It is now home to 23 people all with their own rooms. Our aim is to create a homely atmosphere for everyone."

Mrs Beryl Richards' husband, Dr John Mansel Richards, survived his wife and lives on the same site though not in the main building.

The Old Rectory is a large, impressive, Grade Two listed building, situated in a quiet corner of the village, and boasting an illustrious history.

For many years it was the home of priests who served the parish of St Mary's Church in Wenvoe.

Its current appearance with an elegant 10-windowed frontage facing Old Port Road changed around the late 1700s when the Wenvoe Estate was sold to Mr Peter Birt in 1773.

The house has been known by different names over the centuries – 'Glebe House', 'Parsonage House' and 'The Rectory'.

The famous Methodist preacher John Wesley was entertained to dinner twice in the house in 1741 and 1748 while he was undertaking speaking engagements, including ones at Wenvoe Church.

Rectors of Wenvoe lived in the building until as recently as 1969.

But now, as staff and residents celebrate its 30th year as a residential home, the focus is very much on providing the most up-to-date care.

Residents and staff love getting involved in the regular fitness sessions

The manager Gordon Paton has done a huge amount of research into how to provide the very best care, incorporating ideas developed by Dementia Care Matters, a leading dementia care, 'culture change' organisation.

Gordon said: "We are very lucky with the staff who maintain a high quality of service. There is the feeling 'we are all in this together'. Members of staff will let me know of any concerns they have for a resident."

Staff uniforms have been dispensed with to create an inclusive, relaxed, family atmosphere; there are themed rooms such as a 1960s room to create and spark warm memories of the past for residents; there are lots of activities and days out too.

Mei said: "Members of staff are carefully selected to make sure they have the right mindset.

"Four of our staff have been nominated for the Welsh Care Awards, shortlisted by experts. It is an accolade we are very proud of – everyone in the staff goes that extra mile.

The Old Rectory Care Home in Wenvoe has an illustrious history.

"We have run 14 training courses which is more than the mandatory requirement."

Vale MP, Alun Cairns recently presented the Old Rectory Care Home in Wenvoe with an Investors in Care award.

He told The GEM: "The home provides residential care for older people with dementia, and a Barry personal fitness provider undertakes activities to help residents do more on a daily basis.

"It is a fantastic example of an approach to care that, first and foremost, supports residents.

"Dementia is a growing issue that has a major impact on many families in the Vale, and I fully support any activity that brings residents together.

"The Investors in People award is testament to a new and considered approach to care in Wenvoe."

Gordon also pointed out: "The people of Wenvoe also visit the home, emphasising that we are part of the community."

Another regular visitor is Rev John Omrod who provides a monthly sermon. Residents also enjoy the visits of local school choirs.

There are regular residents' day trips to places such as Penarth and further afield to Bath. One popular one recently was to Barry Waterfront and Pets at Home. Residents brought back rabbits Blanche and Lizzie, which have their own hutch just outside one of the conservatories.

There are also themed events such as an 'Italian Night' and garden parties.

The Old Rectory Care Home takes in people who have received a diagnosis of dementia and need a residential care setting.

Mei said: "We have an open door policy. If people would like to call in we will show them around and they can talk to us and the residents."

For further information, call 02920 593340.

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Doctor Who's Ace appears at Pavilion

Former companion to the Doctor, Sophie Aldred (third from left), pictured with fans at the recent charity event.

SUNDAY, September 13 saw 70 Doctor Who fans congregating at the Pavilion on the pier in Penarth for a sell out charity Doctor Who event and an opportunity to get up close and personal with actress Sophie Aldred in the venue's cosy arts cinema.

The event was the 10th organised by south Wales Doctor Who fan group Timeless (who meet regularly at venues in Cardiff and nearby Pontypridd) – previous guests have included the late Elisabeth Sladen, Deborah Watling (who played Victoria alongside Patrick Troughton's Doctor in the 1960s), Nicola Bryant (Peri in the 1980s), Jacqueline Pearce (best known as Servalan in Blake's 7) and Louise Jameson (Leela).

The events are run by fans for fans, and over £400 was raised for the charity Penarth Arts and Crafts Limited which helps maintain the historic building.

In a relaxed and friendly environment Sophie, encouraged by event organiser Neil, spoke enthusiastically about her career, how she won the role of Ace, her life post-Doctor Who, working with 10th Doctor David Tennant and much more, in a lively, exuberant and refreshingly-unhurried interview/Q&A session.

The early part of the afternoon was given over to an informal autograph/photo opportunity session where everyone had the opportunity to share a few words with Sophie before posing for their inevitable selfies before the event wound down with the charity raffle draw.

On display were a couple of costumes worn by Elisabeth Sladen in the Sarah Jane series, loaned by the Made In Wales Exhibition, and battle-weary Dalek Bob re-enacted the famous 'baseball bat' sequence from 1988's '*Remembrance of the Daleks*' before taking to the promenade to terrify innocent passers-by. A fun, good-natured day and everyone seemed to have an Ace time!

To keep posted of future events, visit Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/A-Day-in-the-life-of-Sophie-Aldred.

NEIL GOODMAN

Ty Hafan lottery draw winners

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D897.

- **£2,000:** 964530.
- **The rollover, which now stands at £8,000 was not won this week.**
- **£10:** 402992, 546080, 542035, 366310, 235118, 546423, 621371, 461982, 445287, 504687, 292903, 179220, 851583, 444850, 887127, 619605, 216730, 869791, 729151, 732513.
- **£5:** 763643, 294883, 494456, 957123, 366726, 367714, 813026, 951938, 309281, 527215, 870082, 200230, 356626, 336086, 159768, 834119, 233733, 108923, 929846, 330313, 545574, 516887, 324791, 698368, 580036, 468712, 237532, 658372, 320633, 241518, 389653, 479558, 302561, 328471, 411910, 330488, 388906, 395324, 764430, 196814, 234855, 701892, 209673, 361935, 605587, 162712, 102361, 353063, 937898, 948301, 200996, 785966, 845416, 114192, 110266, 197078, 000057, 000454, 000364, 000037.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please telephone 029 2053 2300.

Charity tractor run in the Vale

THE Ogmore Castle Vintage Tractor Run will be held on October 4 in the Ogmore Castle Field, by kind permission of Mr Robert Williams.

Registration of tractors will take place from 9am and the run will start at 10.30am. All money raised will go to Macmillan Cancer Support (total raised to date £2,865).

There will be approximately 30 vintage tractors taking part in the run and they will be led as usual by Jeff Webb.

For the benefit of residents who wish to watch the procession, the planned route of the run, and approximate timing, will be: Leave Ogmore Castle 10.30am; Ogmore-by-Sea 10.45am; Southerndown 10.50am; St Brides Major (Bull Hill) 11am; Black Hall Farm 11.15am; Wick 11.30am; Colwinston 11.50am; Llysworney 12.10pm; Pentre Meyrick 12.25pm; Corntown 1pm; Ewenny 1.15pm; Finish at Ogmore Castle 1.30pm.

BASIL GEORGE

Artist's life work

SEVENTY years of work by Welsh artist Dilys Jackson is currently on display at the Vale's Art Central gallery in Barry, as part of an exhibition entitled '7 to 77'.

The pieces on show guide the viewer on a journey through two and three dimensional artworks influenced by war, landscapes and geological formations from all over the world.

The artist will be giving a talk about her work on show on Saturday, October 10 at 11am; contact artinthevale@valeof glamorgan.gov.uk or call 01446 709496.

'Fogo' – from ironworks to the racecourse

BRIAN LEE'S WELSH STEEPLECHASE JOCKEYS

Today's subject from my out-of-print book Welsh Steeplechase Jockeys (Cwm Nedd Press, 1993) is Fothergill Rowlands.

Monmouthshire's Fothergill Rowlands was one of the men responsible for the revival of the sport of steeplechasing in the 1880s and it was thanks to him that the National Hunt Chase was established in 1859.

'Fogo', as he was affectionately known on the racecourse, was brought up to study medicine like his father who had the responsibility of looking after the workers at the Nant-y-glo Ironworks.

But the call of the turf proved too much for Fogo and in 1844 he gave up practising medicine and became one of the crack gentlemen riders of his day. Whenever he rode he sported white kid gloves, probably in imitation of Jem Mason, but unlike Mason he was no dandy.

It was on his own mare *Medora* that he won the Baden-Baden Grand Steeplechase in Germany in 1862.

This prolific winner was successful in the Cardiff Open Steeplechase of 1865 when ridden by William Reeves, Fogo's head man.

This is how the Monmouthshire Merlin newspaper reported the race: 'This was the great race of the meeting. A good start was effected with *Persuader* soon in front, closely followed by *Bowman* and *Bunting*.

'At the second fence *Persuader* refused and the other two horses went into the ditch. *Medora* then took up the running, closely followed by the other horses, and all three came towards home in a bunch, when *Medora* gained an advantage on the last fence and won easily, the pony being beaten for second place by *St Florence* by two lengths.'

Medora had been given top weight of 12st in the 1863 Grand National having proved herself the best in the land. But after running well for most of the journey she was eventually pulled up by her owner/rider near the finish.

Another good horse Fogo was associated with was Lord Strathmore's *The Switcher* and it is on this horse that Fogo can be seen in Herring senior's celebrated painting of Steeplechase Cracks, published in 1847.

Fogo won a race for the King of the Netherlands at Loo Races in 1848 and when he was past his prime he put up an astounding performance when beating Henry Custance by a short head in a match at Stockbridge.

Custance, it must be stated, not only won the Derby three times, but also had a St Leger and a 1,000 Guineas to his credit.

The most unusual 'race' Fogo appears to have taken part in was when for a bet he matched himself to carry on his back his great friend Reggie Herbert 50 yards along Monnow Street, Monmouth, faster than a rather stout gentleman, who had been dining with them, could run twice the distance. Needless to say Fogo won his bet!

Fogo, as recalled in Reggie Herbert's *When Diamonds Were Trumps*, was good at making up epigrams.

Two of his particular favourites being 'Bad luck is good luck, if you'll make it so' and 'Experience is worth nothing unless you pay for it, but the less you pay for it the better.'

When his race riding days were over he started training first at Prestbury Park, Cheltenham, and later at Pitt Place, Epsom. His patrons included The Prince of Wales, Lord Queensbury, Lord Marcus Beresford, Reggie Herbert and Sir John Astley.

Fogo saddled Columbus to win the Cheltenham Grand Annual in 1866 while two other big race winners for him were *The Scamp* and *The Mate*.

While at Epsom he trained the Prince of Wales's *The Arab Alep* who in a match for £500 – a lot of money back then – beat Lord Strathairn's *Avowal* over four miles. This was the Prince of Wales' first winner on the flat!

**Reggie Herbert, another Monmouthshire man and who is mentioned in this extract will be our next subject.*

'Let's not be fussy over the new post office'

AS a car-less octogenarian, I am one of those for whose convenience Mr Morse expresses his concern.

I welcome the proposed opening of a new post office right here in Cowbridge, wherever it may be located. To me it would be a personal relief of Mafeking.

Neither Llantwit nor Bridgend is of the slightest help to me and currently I must plan visits to Cardiff like a military exercise for the smallest transaction and at the loss of a day from my life.

True, I live on the eastern side of town, but I walk from one end to the other at least once a week, if not more frequently.

If I can do it, so can others! It's not like travelling the Great Silk Road – by Mr Morse's reckoning, 500 yards or so.

If you must use a car, there is parking space available a few yards round the corner from the proposed branch. You don't have to be right outside the door!

We can't afford to be fussy. We need a post office right here in Cowbridge, no matter where.

Remember, this will be a fresh type of facility, no longer under threat of closure because of the retirement, relocation or bankruptcy of the host retailer.

Please, don't let the present frustrating situation continue, possibly into infinity, because of a quibble!

Patricia Price (Mrs), Cowbridge.

'SORRY FOR BUMP'

"ON Thursday, August 26 I accidentally reversed into the front bumper of your car – registration starting CA02 – in the Co-op car park in Llantwit.

"If you wish to contact me, please do so on 07747 021 616."

Bridge results

RESULTS for the Vale of Glamorgan bridge club for September 21:

North/South - 1st John Beard & Linda Jenkins 65.42%, 2nd Graham Norris & Sara Bartlett 60.00%.

East/West - 1st Kevin Maddox & Mike Best 65.23%, 2nd Dave & Debbie Lea 56.82%.

LE

CHURCH WELCOMES REV DREW!

Rev Drew Goodman is welcomed by Senior Pastor Rev W John Cook.

MANY readers will be aware of Wilberforce Chapel on Barry Road. As Wilberforce Church, it has served the community in Barry since 1934.

It was dedicated in memory of William Wilberforce, the great Christian statesmen who laboured for the abolition of slavery.

It was erected early in the last century to serve thousands of dock workers, and continues to serve the town today.

A spokesman said: "Our name has changed to Barry Evangelical Presbyterian Church to reflect our history and commitment in the town.

"We warmly welcome people on Sundays at 11am and 6pm.

"People can visit *www.barryepc.org.uk* for more information and directions (postcode CF62 9BL).

"We have also announced the arrival of Rev Drew Goodman as Associate Pastor.

"Drew, his wife, and their three children are sent and supported by the Associated Reformed Presbyterian Church in the United States.

"Drew joins the staff alongside Senior Pastor Rev W John Cook, whose ministry at Wilberforce began in 1981.

"We are offering new ministries too. For mums and children, we will start a Mums and Toddlers group and children's Sunday School.

"For adults, we offer courses to allow learners to examine the Christian faith. You may be sure of our sincere welcome and eagerness to support you. The Lord Jesus Christ's invitation is: '*Come to Me and I will give you rest*'."

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BOVERTON - £345,000

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LLANTWIT MAJOR - £245,000

Commercial/Residential property with front office and filing room to ground floor and two newly converted self contained one bedroom flats which have been refurbished with new kitchens and `bathrooms. Gas fired central heating. UPVC double glazed windows. Garden to the rear. Freehold Offers in the region of £245,000, Ref 780D

LLANTWIT MAJOR £185,000

Well maintained modern three bedroom semi-detached house with Conservatory to the rear located on the south side of town. Hallway, Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Luxury Bathroom. UPVC double glazed windows and doors. Gas central heating. Timber Workshop/Summer House. Long driveway and neatly laid gardens to front and rear. Ref 823D

LLANTWIT MAJOR - £187,500

Modern three bedroom semi-detached bungalow with first floor studio/bedroom and detached garage comprising Reception Room, Sitting Room/Diner, Kitchen/Breakfast room, Modern Bathroom. UPVC windows and doors. Gas central heating. Long driveway and low maintenance gardens to front and rear. Ref 827D

BOVERTON - Offers in the region of £325,000

Exceptionally well presented 18th century cottage with three bedrooms comprises Hall, Sitting Room, Central Room, Dining Room, Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Two Bathrooms, Conservatory, Detached Garage. Natural timbers. Gas central heating. Georgian glazed windows. Mature gardens with southerly and westerly aspect. Freehold. Ref 816D

ST ATHAN - £115,000

Well presented two bedroom end of terrace house situated in West Vale comprising Hallway, Living Room, Fitted Kitchen/Dining Room, Modern Bathroom. Gas central heating. UPVC double glazed windows. Re-decorated and new carpets laid. Garden to front and rear with off road secure parking. No onward chain. £115,000 Ref 835D

LLANTWIT MAJOR - £190,000

Modern detached two bedroom bungalow with integral garage comprising Hallway, Lounge/Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Bathroom/WC. UPVC double glazed windows and doors. Gas central heating. Driveway for parking. Open plan garden to front and neatly laid rear garden. No chain. Ref 825D

LLANTWIT MAJOR - £220,000

Stone built two bedroom terraced cottage situated in a sought after area comprising Hallway, Living Room/Dining area, Inner Hall, Utility area, Wet Room/Shower room. Gas central heating. UPVC double glazed windows. Terrace garden to front. Vegetable plot adjacent. Timber framed garage to the rear with access. Ref 834D

WICK - £199,500

Established extended four bedroom family house situated in a terrace of three comprising Hallway, Living Room, Dining Room, Breakfast area, Fitted Kitchen, Ground floor Wet/Shower room, Family Bathroom, Playroom/Study in the roof space. Gas central heating. UPVC double glazed windows. Good size garden. Ref 836D

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- Two Bedroom Terrace
- Needs Some TLC
- Loft Room
- Popular Residential Area

£120,000

Vachell Court, Llantwit Major
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Ideal Investment
- Popular Residential Location
- No Chain

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Byrd Crescent, Barry
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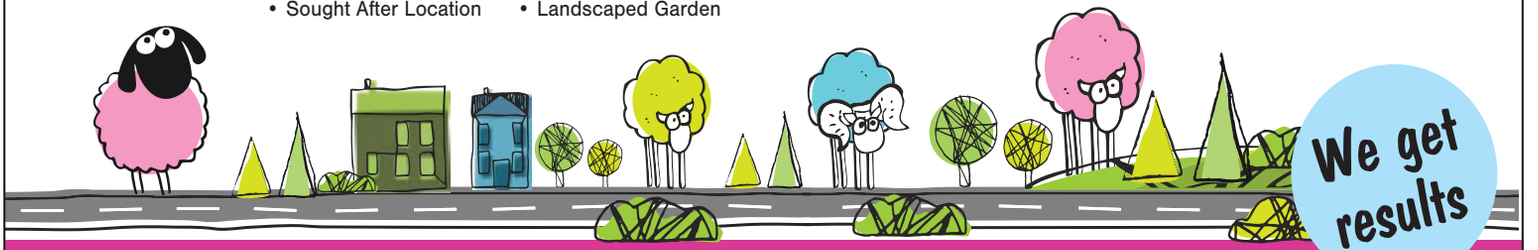

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NEW
DAVID STREET BARRY
• MID TERRACED TRADITIONAL
• THROUGH LIVING ROOM
• DOWNSTAIRS BATHROOM
• TWO DOUBLE BEDROOMS
• WELL PRESENTED THROUGHOUT
• IDEAL FIRST TIME BUY
• VIEWING ESSENTIAL • ER=D
£99,950

NEW
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• MID TERRACED TRADITIONAL
• THROUGH LIVING ROOM
• FITTED KITCHEN
• W.C. CLOAKROOM
• TWO DOUBLE BEDROOMS
• FAMILY BATHROOM
• WELL PRESENTED
£124,950

NEW
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• MODERN DETACHED • LIVING ROOM
• DINING ROOM,KITCHEN/DINER
• CONSERVATORY • 3 BEDROOMS
• MASTER ENSUITE BATHROOM
• DRIVEWAY
• PARTIAL SEA VIEWS FROM REAR GARDEN • EPC = C
£194,950

NEW
ALWEN DRIVE BARRY
• DETACHED DWELLING
• OFFERED WITH NO CHAIN
• LIVING ROOM/DINING ROOM
• CONSERVATORY • W.C. CLOAKROOM
• 4 BEDROOMS • FAM. SHOWER ROOM
• DRIVEWAY/GARAGE
• IN NEED OF SOME UPDATING • ER=D
£199,950

NEW
ST. LYTHANS ROAD BARRY
• SEMI DETACHED
• BAY FRONTED
• 3 BEDROOMS
• 2 RECEPTION ROOMS
• LARGER THAN AV GARDEN
• NO CHAIN • DRIVEWAY
• GARAGE • ER = E
£204,950

NEW
HEOL SIRHWI BARRY
• MODERN LINK DETACHED • LIVING ROOM/DINING • MODERN KITCHEN
• SEPARATE BREAKFAST ROOM
• UTILITY AREA • STUDY AREA IN GARAGE • THREE BEDROOMS
• WELL PRESENTED THROUGHOUT
• DRIVEWAY • ER= D
£212,500

NEW PRICE
MIMOSA HOUSE BARRY
• WELL PRESENTED • GROUND FLOOR APARTMENT • WESTBURY BUILT IN APPROX 2004 • TWO BEDROOMS WITH FITTED WARDROBES • ENSUITE BATHROOM & FAM. BATHROOM
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NEW PRICE
SOUTHEY STREET BARRY
• WELL PRESENTED • ELEVATED END OF TERRACED • THROUGH LIVING ROOM
• MODERN FITTED KITCHEN
• SEA VIEWS OVER THE BRISTOL CHANNEL • THREE BEDROOMS
• MODERN FAMILY BATHROOM
• OFF RD PARKING TO REAR • ER=D
£127,500

NEW PRICE
COURT ROAD BARRY
• MID TERRACED TRADITIONAL
• 25FT FITTED KITCHEN
• THROUGH LIVING ROOM
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£175,000

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• PERIOD PROPERTY
• SPACIOUS THROUGHOUT
• 4 BEDROOMS • 3 RECEPTION ROOMS
• ORIGINAL FEATURES THROUGHOUT
• GARAGE WITH LANE ACCESS
• ENCLOSED REAR GARDEN • EPC - D
£225,000

NEW PRICE
BARRY ROAD BARRY
• SUBSTANTIAL DETACHED DWELLING
• ORIGINALLY A CARE HOME
• TO THE GRND FLR:- 3 REC. ROOMS
• KITCHEN.OFFICE, W.C. & SHOWER ROOM
• 3 BEDROOMS, LAUNDRY • TO THE 2ND FLR: 12 ROOMS • 9 W.C.'S- 1 SEPARATE BATHROOM
• NO CHAIN- VACANT POSSESSION
• UPVC DG- GAS CENTRAL HEATING
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• FAMILY BATHROOM
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£86,950

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• GROUND FLOOR
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• CONTEMPORARY LIVING
• TWO BEDROOMS
• OPEN PLAN KITCHEN
• LOW MAINTENANCE COURTYARD GARDEN • NO CHAIN
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LLEWELYN STREET BARRY
• THREE BEDROOMS
• END TERRACED TRADITIONAL
• THROUGH LIVING/DINING
• ENCLOSED COURTYARD REAR
• UPVC DG & G.C.HEATING VIA COMBI
• WELL PRESENTED THROUGHOUT
• VIEWING RECOMMENDED • ER=D
£104,950

VALE STREET BARRY
• CORNER POSITIONED
• WELL PRESENTED
• MID TERRACED TRADITIONAL
• TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
• FITTED KITCHEN • TWO BEDROOMS
• ENCLOSED REAR GARDEN
• WELL PRESENTED • ER=E
£110,000

NO CHAIN
CROSS STREET BARRY
• TRADITIONAL MID TERRACED
• TWO DOUBLE BEDROOMS
• LIVING/DINING ROOM
• FITTED KITCHEN • UPVC D/G & GCH
• CLOSE TO SHOPS, SCHOOLS AND TRAIN STATION
• WELL PRESENTED • ER = D
£114,950

BELL STREET BARRY
• MID TERRACED TRADITIONAL
• WELL PRESENTED
• THROUGH LIVING ROOM
• FITTED KITCHEN
• THREE BEDROOMS
• DOWNSTAIRS BATHROOM
• NO CHAIN • ER=D
£115,000

VIEWING A MUST
BARRY ROAD BARRY
• END OF TERRACED TRADITIONAL
• SPACIOUS DWELLING
• TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
• THREE BEDROOMS • BATHROOM
• REPLACEMENT FIRST FLOOR
• ENCLOSED REAR GARDEN
• SIDE ACCESS • NO CHAIN
£119,950

DUNRAVEN STREET BARRY
• MID TERRACED • LIVING ROOM
• GROUND FLOOR BATHROOM
• FITTED KITCHEN • 3 BEDROOMS
• ENCLOSED REAR GARDEN
• UPVC DG- GCHEATING VIA COMBI
• IN WALKING DISTANCE TO NUMEROUS BEACHES & PORTHCERI PARK • ER=D
£119,950

NO CHAIN
REGENT STREET BARRY
• TRADITIONAL MID TERRACED
• THREE BEDROOMS
• THREE REC. ROOMS
• MODERN FITTED KITCHEN
• HOBBY AREA IN ATTIC
• SPACIOUS BATHROOM • NO CHAIN
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• DETACHED BUNGALOW
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• COMBINATION BOILER/UPVC DG
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• CONSERVATORY
• ATTIC/HOBBY ROOM
• ER = D
£149,950

SOMERSET ROAD EAST BARRY
• ARCHITECTURALLY DESIGNED
• SEMI DETACHED • 3 BEDROOMS
• LOUNGE • KITCHEN/DINER
• UPVC D/G GCH
• ENCLOSED FRONT AND REAR GARDENS • OFFERED FOR SALE WITH NO CHAIN • ER=E
£169,950

ORIO
EITHINEN BER BARRY
• A WELL PRESENTED
• THREE BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED
• W.C. CLOAKROOM
• LIVING ROOM
• KITCHEN/DINER • FAMILY BATHROOM
• DRIVEWAY-ENCLOSED GARDEN
• ER=D
£173,000

WHITMORE PARK DRIVE BARRY
• MODERN SEMI DETACHED
• THREE BEDROOMS
• LIVING ROOM, DINING ROOM
• MODERN FITTED KITCHEN
• DRIVEWAY PROVIDING OFF ROAD
• PARKING • GARAGE
• OFFICE/HOBBY ROOM • ER=D
£173,500

BROAD STREET BARRY
• END OF TERRACED
• TRADITIONAL DWELLING
• TWO REC. ROOMS
• FITTED KITCHEN
• 1ST FLR:- 3 BEDRMS, FAM. BATHROOM • 2ND FLR:- 2 BEDROOMS
• WELL PRESENTED • ER=E
£179,950

GIBBONSDOWN RISE, BARRY
• MODERN DETACHED • LIVING ROOM
• MODERN KITCHEN/DINER
• SITTING ROOM (CONVERTED GARAGE) • UTILITY ROOM
• W.C. CLOAKROOM • DRIVEWAY
• ENCLOSED PRIVATE REAR GARDEN
• EPC = D
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• W.C. CLOAK & SEPARATE SHOWER ROOM • GARAGE • AMPLE PARKING
• NO CHAIN • EPC - C
£199,950

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COLCOT ROAD BARRY
• TRADITIONAL SEMI DETACHED
• SPACIOUS LIVING THROUGHOUT
• 3 REC. ROOMS • 5 BEDROOMS
• KITCHEN/DINER • UTILITY, SHOWER RM
• LARGER THAN AVERAGE AVERAGE
• OVER 200FT GARDEN APPROX
• DRIVEWAY/GARAGE • EPC = E
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62 WOODHAM PARK, BARRY - £229,950
Well presented detached property located towards the north of Barry.
Lounge. Kitchen/dining room. Utility room. Cloakroom.
Four double bedrooms. Family bathroom and En suite.
Garage and driveway parking. Views over open playing fields.
Offered for sale with NO CHAIN.

NEW

58 GLAMORGAN STREET, BARRY - £134,950
Extended terraced house located in west end of Barry. Lounge/dining room. Modern fitted kitchen.
Ground floor bathroom. Three bedrooms.
Enclosed front and rear courtyard.
Close to schools and local amenities.

NEW

ARDEN, ROMILLY PARK ROAD, BARRY - £374,950
Traditional extended bay fronted property overlooking Romilly Park.
Two reception rooms. Kitchen. Dining area.
Shower room to ground floor. Four bedrooms. Bathroom.
Gardens to front and rear. Garage and driveway.
Extensively renovated throughout to a high standard. Close to all amenities.

8 MAES GLAS, WOODLANDS RISE, BARRY - £220,000
Detached property in West end of Barry.
Lounge . Kitchen/Dining Room. Cloakroom.
Three Bedrooms. Bathroom.UPVC double glazing.
Gas central heating. Garage. Enclosed rear garden
Views over countryside. Cul de Sac location

NOTICE OF OFFER
149 GLADSTONE ROAD, BARRY
By order of the trustees, we advise that an offer has been made for the above property in the sum of **£145,000**. Any person wishing to increase on this offer should notify the estate agents of their best and final offer prior to exchange of contracts. Knights Estate Agents. 84 High Street, Barry CF62 7DX. 01446 700222

55 DOCK VIEW ROAD, BARRY - £179,950
Well maintained Victorian semi detached.
Lounge/dining room. Sitting room. Fitted kitchen.
Large bathroom. Three double bedrooms.
Well maintained rear garden and forecourt.
Off road parking. Extensive views over Waterfront.

37 EVAN STREET, BARRY - £114,950
Traditional terraced property.
Refurbished throughout.
Lounge through dining room. Fitted kitchen.
Two double bedrooms. Modern bathroom.
Low maintenance rear garden.
lose to shopping centre.

4 GREAT THOMAS CLOSE, BARRY - £177,500
Semi detached property . Two reception rooms.
Three double bedrooms. En suite shower room.
UPVC double glazing. Gas central heating.
Parking and enclosed rear garden.
Rural location. Walking distance to beach.

NEW

43 DUNRAVEN STREET, BARRY £140,000
End of terrace property in the West end of Barry.
Open plan living room.
Fitted kitchen/breakfast room.
Two bedrooms. Bathroom to first floor.
Recently renovated to a high standard.
Close to local amenities and Schools.

NEW

4 DAVIES STREET, BARRY - £110,000
Traditional mid terrace property.
Lounge/dining room. Fitted Kitchen.
Ground floor bathroom. Three bedrooms.
UPVC double glazing. Gas central heating.
Close to shops, schools and bus routes.
No Chain.

Thinking of Selling?

01446 700222

132 PHYLLIS STREET, BARRY - £109,950
Mid terraced property situated on Barry Island.
Two reception rooms. Kitchen. Two bedrooms.
Bathroom to first floor. Rear garden.
UPVC double glazing.
Gas central heating.
Walking distance of local amenities.

SSTC

24 GLAMORGAN STREET, BARRY - £139,950
Bay fronted refurbished terraced property.
Two reception rooms. Fitted kitchen.
Ground floor bathroom. Two bedrooms.
Enclosed forecourt and rear garden.

NEW

27 THE WHEATE CLOSE, THE HOLLIES, RHOOSE - £200,000
Detached property Rhoose Village.
Lounge/dining room. Kitchen/breakfast room.
Cloakroom. Three bedrooms. Family bathroom
and en suite shower room. Driveway and garage.
Close to train station, beach and local amenities.

NEW

2 HEOL SIRHWI, CWM TALWG, BARRY - £249,950
Detached chalet bungalow in the west end of Barry.
Lounge. Kitchen opening onto dining/sitting room.
Conservatory. Utility room. Cloakroom.
Two double bedrooms. Modern bathroom.
Garden front and rear. Driveway and garage.

SSTC

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TO LET

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TO LET

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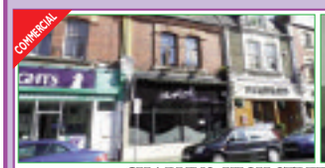

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NEW

Llanharry £254,950

Well positioned at the head of a small cul-de-sac is this four double bedroomed house with single integral garage, driveway parking and easily maintained gardens to front and rear. Accommodation comprises entrance hallway, cloakroom, lounge, dining room/sitting room, kitchen, four double bedrooms with en-suite shower off the master, family bathroom. Early viewing of this family home is recommended. EPC Rating – TBC

TO LET

Cowbridge £650pcm

A well appointed first floor flat within walking distance of Cowbridge town centre. The accommodation comprises a good size living room, comprehensively fitted kitchen, two bedrooms and a modern bathroom. The flat benefits from being recently refurbished throughout. Occupation is available immediately.

Cowbridge £565,000

Deceptively spacious house with well presented accommodation on 3 floors including 3 reception rooms, kitchen/breakfast room and 5 double bedrooms, family bathroom and an en-suite. Gardens. Double garage. Distant views over town and countryside. EPC Rating – D

Cowbridge £575,000

Character detached house set within pretty mature gardens. The accommodation includes living room, sitting room, dining room, a garden room, study area, kitchen/diner, utility room, cloakroom/WC, 4 bedrooms, an en-suite shower room, separate shower room and family bathroom. Double garage and workshop. EPC Rating - E

Llysworney £498,000

An attractive, detached cottage retaining many character features. Accommodation includes living room with inglenook fireplace, dining room, sitting room, fitted kitchen, conservatory, cloak/WC, master bedroom with en-suite shower room, 3 further bedrooms and family bathroom. Outside lawned areas, sizeable off-road parking, further amenity land and double garage. EPC Rating - F

Llanmaes £415,000

Deceptively spacious, detached house with well proportioned accommodation including lounge, conservatory, dining room, study, kitchen-breakfast room, a large utility room and cloakroom/WC, 4 double bedrooms, plus a family bathroom. Driveway parking and integral, double garage. Lawned front garden and a sheltered rear garden. EPC Rating – E

St Nicholas £795,000

A new, detached bungalow (in the course of construction), set within grounds and pasture land extending to approximately 1.07 acre, and enjoying spectacular southerly views across the rural Vale and the Bristol Channel beyond. Accommodation to include hall, lounge, kitchen/dining room, study, 4 bedrooms, 2 en-suites and a family bathroom, and cloakroom/WC.

Cefn Cribwr £499,950

An attractive cottage, with accommodation including a wealth of character features, two reception rooms, fitted kitchen, utility, shower room, three sizeable bedrooms, with potential to create a 4th bedroom, family bathroom. Mature gardens, stable block, pasture land and ground extending to approximately 4 acres and enjoying some spectacular, far reaching views. EPC Rating - F

Bridgend £220,000

A traditional, semi-detached house, in the popular residential area of Ewenny Rd, Bridgend, within level walking distance of the town centre. Well proportioned accommodation comprising 2 living rooms, kitchen/dining room, downstairs cloakroom 3 bedrooms and 2 shower rooms. Front and rear garden. EPC Rating - D

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Tathan Crescent, St Athan
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Family Notices

WEST
John

Hanlon, Vince, Margaret and family would like to thank everyone who attended the celebration of a wonderful man and for all of the cards, flowers and donations of £300 for 'Vale Plus'. A special thank you to Lyndsay and staff and a big thank you to Tony Leeson for giving an uplifting service.

RADCLIFFE
Wayne

It is with great sadness that we announce Wayne Radcliffe lost his battle with cancer on September 14. He will be a much missed husband, father, grandfather and friend.

Cremation to be held on Friday, Septmeber 25 in Coychurch Crematorium at 12 noon.

The family request no flowers but donations may be made to MacMillan Cancer Support or Marie Curie Cancer Care c/o W.A. Brown & Son, College Street, Llantwit Major, CF61 1SG (cheques only).

BRITTON
Sydney Henry

Peacefully on Septmeber 13 at University Hospital of Wales. Syd, aged 92 years, who grew up in Dinas Powys and was well known for his time at E Turner & Sons of Grangetown. A much loved dad to Mike, Jeff and their families.

Syd will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him.

Resting at The Vale Funeral Service, 181 Court Road, Barry until his service at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road East, Barry on Wednesday, September 30 at 2.30pm. Floral tributes may be sent to the Funeral Home.

Further enquiries to Lyndsay Ellis @ The Vale Funeral Service, 01446 407962.

DAVIES
Wyndham

Passed away peacefully on September 12 at Holme Tower. Loving husband to Eirlys, will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

Resting at Park Funeral Directors, 7 Tynewdd Road, Barry, until his service on Friday, September 25 at 1pm at Cardiff and Glamorgan Memorial Park and Crematorium, Port Road East. Donations in lieu of flowers can be made at the service with thanks to Holme Tower and Velindre Cancer Care.

O'CONNELL
Stephen Patrick

The family would like to thank all friends and neighbours for their wonderful support and kind wishes on the sad loss of their loving brother Stephen Patrick O'Connell, a much loved son of the late Mervyn and Dorothy O'Connell.

In our hearts forever - Chris, Dennise and Marilyn. Many thanks also to the Reverend Phil Denyer and to Ron of Mel & Ron Watkins Funeral Services for his outstanding assistance.

PAGE
Joyce

Peacefully on September 6 at Llandough Hospital, Joyce of Charlotte Place, Barry. Beloved wife of the late Benjamin Joseph (Ben), much loved mother of Alen and mother-in-law of Esme. Adored grandmother of Clare, Michael, Karen and great grandmother of Elizabeth, Nigel, Lorelei, Shaun, Aiden, Mollie, Nicholas and Lauren, Lydia, Maisie and Rhoda. Great great grandmother of Riley, Leah and Aurora.

Resting at A.G. Adams & Son Funeral Home, Gladstone Road, Barry until the funeral on Monday, September 28. Service in the chapel at 11.15am, afterwards interment at Barry Cemetery.

Family flowers only, if desired, donations may be handed to the funeral director after the funeral for Ty Hafan Childrens Hospice in Wales.

NEWMAN
Norma Elizabeth

Peacefully on September 18 at the Princess of Wales Hospital, Norma of Caer Berllan, Pencoed, formerly of St. Mary's Hill. Dearly loved wife of Bob, much loved mother of Diane, Philip, Robert, the late Gerald. Mother-in-law, loving nan to all her grandchildren and great-grandchildren and a dear sister to Vernon.

Norma will be sadly missed by all her family and friends.

Funeral Thursday, October 1, service and cremation at Coychurch Crematorium at 3.15pm. Family flowers only, donations in lieu may be made to Cancer Research Wales c/o Mel & Ron Watkins Funeral Services, Graigwen, 12 Pentwyn Road, Pencoed, Bridgend, CF35 6SB Tel: 01656 860545.

SCOTT
Frank

Suddenly passed away in his sleep at home, after a short illness on September 21. Loving partner of Celia. Will be sadly missed by family and friends.

Funeral Service at Coychurch Crematorium on Thursday, October 1 at 1.15pm. Family flowers only, donations in lieu to Cancer Research UK.

CHURCHILL
Gordon Winston

Peacefully on September 19 at Anwen Care Home, Blackmill, Gordon (Wyn) formerly of St Athan, beloved husband of Lillian and the late Alice, much loved father of Sandra, grandfather of Dean, Brett and the extended family.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Thursday, October 1, service and interment 2pm at St Athan Church. Family flowers only may be sent to the Funeral Home, donations in lieu, if desired, to Alzheimers Disease Society c/o J James, 11 Fonmon Road, Rhoose, Vale of Glamorgan CF62 3DZ.

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In Memorium

In memory of
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September 22nd

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We often lay awake at night when all the world's asleep, and take a trip down memory lane with tears upon our cheeks.

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Birthdays

Happy 50th Birthdays
Brian & Hayley Williams
25 September

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Happy 50th Birthdays

Brian & Hayley Williams
25 September
Hope you have a great day & night! love Alyson, Tony and all your children & grandchildren xxx

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A Big Thank You

Shirley Jury would like to say thank you to all her family, friends and neighbours who so generously donated to her sponsored walk for 'Sian's Walk or Water' (Sian Laycock), with all proceeds going to Velindre Cancer Centre and Leadings Lights Appeal.

Shirley xxx

Sheila Pritchard

Would like to thank the firemen who were first to respond to an accident involving her on September 1 at Romilly Park, Barry

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Barry RFC seconds in action...

BARRY second XV travelled to St Peters a week last Saturday more in hope than expectation after a series of late player withdrawals.

Coaches Rhidan Scott and Martin Tanner, and manager Ken Chow, were forced to dig deep into their squad in order to piece together a side.

Matt Russell found himself at outside half, Mitchell Scott made his first senior start, and Dean Griffiths awaited his debut after joining the club just the week before; Chow himself was on the bench.

St Peters were keen to test out their visitors' inexperienced backline, but it was in the set pieces that they held superiority early on. Barry were unable to win any line-out ball, while the scrum was also creaking, offering the hosts plenty of possession.

Despite their advantage, St Peters were unable to score in the first quarter due to some great defensive work from Owain Poole, Jordan Clarke and Elliot Evans. The hosts eventually made their superiority count with a penalty after 20 minutes, and from there the floodgates threatened to open.

Veteran Lee Jones had come on to replace the injured Scott, but he was unable to prevent the home side scoring out wide for an unconverted try. Barry roared back with some good, direct running, most notably from Poole and Curtis Miller, but curiously turned down several opportunities to kick for goal. Instead, they sensed a try that never came and the territory gained counted for nothing.

Instead the hosts extended their lead with two late scores in the half to put the game out of reach for the visitors.

The management sent on the experienced Rolfe and Griffiths for his debut, and that did shore up the scrum somewhat.

However, the hosts continued to dominate despite the best efforts of the Barry defence, led by scrum-half Rhidian Mepham, and tries came and went.

Barry battled until the end but their inexperienced backline was exposed brutally on a wide pitch against a slick opposite back division. The 51-0 score in the end was perhaps not a fair reflection for the effort the visitors put in but ultimately the late withdrawals of numerous players cost the side dear.

Barry will host Pentyrch in the first round of the East District Cup and the management will hope that players will take more responsibility regarding their availability.

Action from Barry seconds against St Peters.

Team: T Poole; Bailey, D Evans, Clarke, E Evans; Russell, Mepham; Hall, Turnbull, Heard; Case ©, Lloyd Jones; Scott, O Poole, Miller. Replacements: Griffiths, Rolfe, Lee Jones, substitute not used: Chow. Man of the match: Clarke.

OLD PENARTHIANS 2ND XV 0
BARRY 2ND XV 54

Barry second XV travel the short distance to Old Penarthians for the East District Cup Preliminary Round tie on a brisk Wednesday night.

Coaches Rhidian Scott and Martin Tanner were forced to shuffle their pack in the last minute with talismanic Dave Provis out injured, while captain Kyle Case was also unavailable. In came Belgian Remy Frenay for his competitive debut, and third XV fly-half Chris Bailey was among the substitutes.

With the hosts forced to start the game without a competitive front row, Barry opted to play a direct running game to try to gain the momentum from the off.

Unfortunately they found the Old Penarthians' defence unrelenting, and that, combined with some poor handling amongst the backs, saw no score in the first quarter of an hour.

Barry finally broke the deadlock when Curtis Miller ran into space, and his offload was beautifully timed for Danny Ryan to dive through in the corner to score. Tomos Lee failed to add the extras.

The once disciplined home defence were temporary disorganised and the incisive Barry attack took full advantage. First, late call-up Ashley Adams profited from some weak tackling, running through to touch down under the posts, before No. 8 Harry Moyle raced beyond the covering defenders to score his first try for Barry; Lee was successful with both conversions.

The hosts did not capitulate but instead more than held their own for the next quarter, but were undone by two quick tries just before the interval to put the result of the cup tie to bed.

Rhidian Mepham sniped perfectly behind the forward platform from scrum-half, before Adams completed his brace, with Lee adding the extras.

The second interval saw a welcome return to action for Jake Goodfellow from injury, and his ball carrying skills were much in evidence, but Barry once again found the home defence spirited and unyielding for the early parts of the half.

Matt Russell, switched from wing to centre from the weekend, ran a good line to score his first try for the club, before James Hollister took on all comers to crash through under the posts.

A well-worked move behind the forwards saw Lee dance through to set Ryan up for his second try of the game to round off the scoring. The victory was slightly soured, however, by the concussion suffered by Frenay late on, as his ferocious tackling took its toll.

Team: Ryan ©; Clarke, Russell, A Adams, Poole; Lee, Mepham; Ring, Turnbull, Hollister; McTavish, Jones; Miller, Frenay, Moyle. Replacements: Fortt, Goodfellow, T Adams, Bailey. Man of the match: Frenay. **KC**

IMPRESSIVE START TO SEASON FOR COGAN YOUTH TEAM

COGAN FC youth team have started the season in impressive fashion.

Despite the majority of players being only 16 years old, the team have played three games in 10 days and have progressed in the FAW Welsh Youth Cup and drawn local neighbours Barry United FC in the next round.

TAFF WELL 0
COGAN 0

Cogan kicked off their campaign against a strong and talented Taffs Well youth team packed full of former professional academy and talented young players.

In a game of few chances both sides played a high tempo match full of quality and flair with slick passing from both teams dominating the first half.

In the second half Jake Emmott and Kieran Griffiths went close for the visitors while Dominic Mushemi missed a golden chance towards the end of the game.

The game finished 0-0 but clearly showed what talent is in the area with both sides shining.

COGAN 1, REAL BRYNTIRION 2
SOUTH WALES YOUTH CUP

Cogan bowed out of the South Wales Youth Cup despite dominating the game.

Jake Emmott open the scoring for Cogan in the first half and further chances fell to Gabriel Paines and Ieaun Rideout.

Against the run of play Real Bryntirion equalised. Further chances fell to Cogan with the youngsters hitting the woodwork several times.

In the dying minutes the more physical and older Real Bryntirion side scored the winner, dashing the Cogan young guns' chances of progressing in the cup.

COGAN 1
BARGOED 2

Having several 16-year-olds playing in this fixture, Cogan FC adapted well to the conditions and poor playing surface.

Bargoed, a strong and physical unit, took a early lead following a long ball into the box, but Cogan showed much team spirit and fought back with Mustapha Yousif equalising.

Cogan took control of the game with Callum Pearce, Nathan Frost, Acki Ahmed and Kyle Campbell shining in defence.

Chances fell to Dominic Mushemi and Jake Emmott but again the more aggressive and physical side came out on top.

Cogan's next game is against Pentrych, before entertaining Barry United FC at home in the FAW Welsh Youth Cup. **PG**

The Barrivale Bridge results

LATEST results from Barrivale Bridge Club for September 15:

1st Celia & Huw Thomas 64.14%; 2nd Peter Millar & Noelle Bond 63.28%; 3rd Jane Brook & Hilary Morgan 53.27%. Celia and Huw Thomas also won on handicap.

New members are always welcome at Barrivale. A partner may be arranged if required.

If you would like to join us ring 01446 418380, 01446 733425 or 01446 735592, or call at the Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road, Barry on Tuesdays at 7pm. **DR**

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10 goal thriller as Barry Athletic suffer a defeat

PREMIER DIVISION - WENVOE ARMS 6, BARRY ATHLETIC A 4

On a glorious September afternoon, the Barry Athletic first team travelled to Wenvoe to face early league leaders Wenvoe Arms FC.

The Athletic themselves were coming into the game on the back of some very good league form so confidence was high in the camp with the aim of being the first club to take any points from the home side.

The game didnt start well though with the home side striking first and going one up in the first five minutes!

That only inspired the Athletic though and they soon sprung into action playing the lovely free flowing football that has been evident over recent weeks, striking back through a Kyle Caton goal.

The Athletic then unbelievably found themselves a goal up with a crisp finish from the returning Chris Leach, defying the years with a lovely top corner volley.

Huw Davies in the Athletic goal stood firm to everything thrown at him with Wenvoe always a threat with the sheer pace they have through the team. Just before half-time the Athletic found themselves in dreamland when good play from Kyle Caton sent the ball onto partner and brother TeeJay Caton, who expertly finished past the keeper to make the half-time score 3-1.

Wenvoe started the second half the brighter team and got a goal back in the 60th minute to give them hope. Only 60 seconds later it was that man again, TeeJay Caton, never giving up on a dead ball, robbing the defender and firing low past the advancing keeper to send the Athletic fans into raptures on the sideline!

The game changed on the 70th minute mark though with the Athletic being reduced to 10 men and then the home side being awarded a dubious penalty only minutes later.

It was always going to be an uphill struggle to hold out the numerical advantage the home side now had and the brilliant fitness levels they were showing at this stage of the game.

The final score ended up 6-4 in favour of the home side. With no less than 14 new faces for the first team this season, this was another fantastic showing from a side clearly going in the right direction.

The club would like to thank Wenvoe Arms for a fantastic game and wish them all the best for the season.

DIVISION 2 - ISLAND MARINE B 1, BARRY ATHLETIC B 3

Captain Kyle Ceesay was the star of the show at Maslin Park with these footballing neighbours contesting a local derby.

With the noise of the newly revived funfair echoing over the pitch, it was the Island team who started strongly and took an early lead after a defensive mix-up.

Athletic always knew that their young legs would test the older Marine lads so they didn't panic and went about their business to grind out the result they were hoping for.

It was midway through the first half when the breakthrough came. A penalty was awarded by referee, Fred Spry, and it was the skipper Ceesay that strolled up with confidence to give the keeper no chance.

The Athletic knew at half-time that this was now their turn to put pressure on the Marine defence and introduced the fresh legs of Billy Gratton, Louis Foran and Loucas Achilleos throughout the half.

It wasn't long before Ben Pearce broke through the defensive line with one of his trademark bursts from midfield to calmly score past the advancing keeper.

The Marine threw everything they had at the Athletic but the defensive line of keeper Sam Rees-Davies, Frank Roe, Gage Waller, Jamie Deguara and Eddie Roe were superb.

It was Ceesay again that finished Marine off with a powerful header into the top corner from 12 yards that left the keeper stranded and gave the Athletic the three points they were hoping for.

In three weeks time the Marine take the trip across the road to the Athletic Ground for the return match; as always, a warm welcome awaits.

This Saturday the club host Splott Cons Old Boys in round one of the South Wales Intermediate Cup at the Athletic Ground, Barry Island. Kick off is at 2pm and the clubhouse will be open before, during and after the game.

AG

Barry RFC under-9s show off new kit

The Barry RFC under-9s proudly show off their new match kit ahead of their first game of the season. Special thanks go to KCS, the Aberthaw-based haulage company, for generously sponsoring the team.

Barry chess teams in action

THIS week three of our teams had matches.

The Camelots and Gambits played their first games of the season on Monday followed by the Bosons playing their second match on Tuesday.

The Camelots travelled to Caerphilly to take on the Kings. Every year I hear the same old story from Caerphilly about how weak they are and how many players have left the club.

However, on this occasion they had three players rated over 2000 and outrated us on every board. Sam Jukes and Ken Hannah both earned draws as we fell to a 4-1 defeat.

The Bosons travelled to Whitchurch to take on the Woodpushers. We expected a tough game as the north Cardiff side had recruited David Llewellyn from the defunct Aberdare club, which should mean a title challenge will come from our oppponents.

On boards 4 and 5 the equal rated Steve Cunliffe and Ashley Davis took wins with both the Matthew's, Davies and Parry, taking draws to give us the Bosons their second consecutive 3-2 victory.

A mention must be made about Rhys Steele. He played on board 1 for both the Camelots and the Bosons.

He had difficult games to manoeuvre, eventally losing to both Ioan Rees and Tim Kett, the two highest ranked players within the East Glamorgan League.

At this early stage of the season the Bosons stand proudly at the top of the league with a half point advantage over the Cardiff Castles and the Woodpushers. The Camelots currently stand not so proudly at the foot of the table.

In the fourth division the Gambits had a home game against the Pontypridd Thirds.

The Thirds are one of the stronger teams in this division and are ranked above our third division side.

Although the Gambits lost by 4-1 there were draws almost inevitably from Stephen Bonutto and also from a player new to the Barry Chess Club, Ken Curry.

As both of their opponents were ranked over 300 points above them, these were really two excellent results.

The Barry Chess Club meets at 7.30pm each Monday at the West End Club. St. Nicholas Road, Barry CF62 6QY. The club is open to players of all standards; whether you are interested in playing competitive chess or just the occasional friendly games.

New players are very welcome to just turn up on the night but if you contact one of the club members through the website we can explain what is happening on the night you have in mind, and arrange for someone to greet you on your arrival.

For more details visit our website at http://barrychessclub.yolasite.com.

PJ

Hockey team reaches the Cup semi-finals!

PENARTH Hockey Club's new-look first XI put its pre-season friendly form to one side at the weekend as the traditional Welsh Cup qualifying tournament pitted them against some serious competition in Swansea.

Opening up against hosts Swansea Bay in the early morning sunshine, it was Penarth who started brightest, converting pressure into a one-goal advantage as Dave Joyce converted a cross at the back post.

The young Swansea side responded from the restart and, attacking with pace, quickly grabbed an equaliser, but Penarth were not to be bowed, eventually regaining the lead before half-time when Chris Baker drove into the D and neatly flicked the ball home.

Despite being 2–1 up at the break, Penarth started the second half sluggishly, allowing Swansea to capitalise with another equaliser early on.

The goal appeared to spur the visitors back into action and the pressure paid off as, pushing forward and attacking in numbers, Joyce repeated his earlier strike by converting at the back post to put Penarth ahead once more.

This time, the Vale side did not allow Swansea back into the game and grabbed a fourth goal via a Laith El-Khatib drag flick to run out 4–2 victors.

Penarth took on Whitchurch in their second game knowing that a point would guarantee a place in the play-offs. Penarth dug in and, courtesy of some poor Whitchurch finishing and some fantastic last ditch defending, particularly from Sam Williamson, managed to keep a clean sheet to earn a 0–0 draw to secure the point they needed to win the group.

The crossover play-off game saw Penarth facing Bridgend, who had finished as runners-up in the alternate group. The Bears started well and raced into a two-goal lead, with Baker grabbing both strikes after outstanding work from Usman Hameed Dhami and Joyce respectively.

Bridgend didn't let their heads drop, however, and pulled one back before half-time, but Penarth were eager not to allow a repeat of their first game, where they surrendered their half-time advantage, and attacked from the restart, eventually grabbing a third goal as Croxall played a defence-splitting pass from the halfway line which Joyce dinked over the 'keeper with his first touch.

To their credit, Bridgend kept coming back at Penarth, halving the deficit with 10 minutes to play and then levelling late on through a drag flick into the top corner.

The 3–3 draw meant that the game would be decided by penalty shuffles, and Penarth started well, scoring first through Baker and then seeing Bridgend's effort creep narrowly wide.

However, misses by El-Khatib and Croxall were matched by two goals from Bridgend, leaving Penarth trailing 2–1 after the first three rounds.

Joyce stepped up and, continuing his deadly form from earlier in the day, neatly tucked the ball home to temporarily bring the sides level. When Bridgend's effort was then disallowed after the ball took longer than the allotted eight seconds to cross the line, the shoot-out went to sudden death and, with Rhys Evans converting with aplomb, it was left to Penarth goalkeeper Mark Harris to win the match by saving the decisive shuffle.

Penarth's victory saw them emulate the 2nd XI's success from the previous weekend, and both teams will now take their place in the semi-finals with a place in finals weekend at stake.

CARDIFF MEDICS 'A' 3 PENARTH 'A' 1

It was a changed second XI that took the field for the final pre-season friendly, against a strong Medics team preparing for life in a higher division than the visitors.

The students took up the early running, putting pressure on the Penarth D from the off, but some determined defending from centre back James Davies combined with inspired saves from stand-in goalkeeper James Erasmus kept the scores level through to the mid-point of the period.

Penarth's occasional attacking moves showed some fragility in the Medics' back-line and, after a spell of concerted pressure, the visitors were awarded a penalty corner that Dave Watkins converted from Dave Thomas' slip ball.

Buoyed by their unexpected advantage, Penarth played on a par with their hosts for the remainder of the half, but paid for failing to convert the chances that came their way as the Medics took advantage of a defensive lapse to poke the ball past Erasmus and bring the sides level on the scoreboard as well as the pitch.

Worse was to come for Penarth, however, as a swift break saw the home side take the lead on the verge of half-time, but the Bears refused to buckle after the break and, driven on by the guile of Mark Robinson in midfield, again showed resolve in defence and verve in attack.

As the game wore on, however, the students' youth began to tell and, after camping in the Penarth half for some time, their endeavours were rewarded with a third goal that put the game beyond doubt but did not reflect their opponent's contribution to an otherwise even encounter.

Despite the defeat, the performance will provide encouragement for both Penarth second and third XIs, with players from both sides showing good form against higher-ranked opposition.

With the second XI sitting out the first round of matches in the newly-sponsored GoCrea8 Hockey League this weekend, the firsts take on old foes Whitchurch in Cardiff while the thirds make the long trip west to take on Trinity St David's in Lampeter.

Anyone interested in joining the club at senior or youth level can contact either player-coach Ben Croxall (b_croxall20@yahoo.co.uk) or club secretary Dave Stevens (d_stevens81@hotmail.co.uk) for further information.

CL

CADOXTON 'A' ENDS SEASON ON A HIGH

CADOXTON A played off a home fixture, which was an outstanding match, cancelled earlier in the season, against Murch A.

The match was enjoyed by both sides as the weather was kind, probably the best afternoon of the season, for playing bowls.

Cadoxton were able to field a full side for the second time during the year, due to the inclusion of a smattering of first team players. The outcome was the second win of the year. This shows what could have been with a full compliment available on a regular basis.

Captain Dennis Hammond skipped his rink to a fine win in a fairly close game, against Colin Garland. It was not until the latter stages that a comprehensive gap opened, although the home side held a slight advantage for most of the time.

The final three ends had a definite effect on the result when 8 shots were scored, including a last end '5'.

Don Kuhnell showed his experience on his rink against Ian Robinson, by refusing to allow them to hold shots for end after end. This was no disparagement to the others on the rink on either side who all played their essential part in the game. Ivor Robertson was a late addition to the team, on his 60th wedding anniversary, due to a last minute drop-out, and regularly added good quality bowls to the head.

Dave Fanning came up against opposing skip Les Aubrey, and took what appeared to be a winning position when leading 15-5 after 10 ends.

However two '4's changed their domination and by the 17th end the score was tied at 17-17. A '2' each kept the scores level, but the visitors moved into the lead for the first time on the penultimate end, followed by a single to earn the success.

Gordon Davies skipped the other rink against Graham Russell. They also seemed likely winners with a 14-2 advantage after 11 ends.

Unfortunately the wheels came off and just one further shot came in their favour, and the visitors took the lead on the final end, for the first time, with a single.

Scores: G Powell, A Field, D Evans, D Fanning 19 – 24 T Phillips, J Harrison, J Allen, L Aubrey; E Heppenstall, G Solomon, R Byrne, G Davies 15 – 16 D Blainey, R Fudge, P Venn, G Russell; S Clements, R Morris, I Heppenstall D Hammond 22 – 13 D Bateman, D Davies, D Poole, C Garland; R Cole, I Robertson, S Clarke, D Kuhnell 32 – 7 D Letts, A Perry, A Cross, I Robinson. Final score: 88 - 60.

DK

Medals for the Beavers

THE Beavers traveled to Ebbw Vale on Saturday to compete against seven other Welsh clubs for the regional and national gala.

We came away with two gold, four silver and five bronze medals. A gold medal went to Heather Williams ladies 50m, Layla Rogers ladies 100m; silver medal went to Keira Richards girls 25m, Jack Finch boys 25m, Talisha Rogers girls 50m, and junior relay, who were Jack Kemp, Tyler Savory, Courtney Rogers and Abigail Finch.

Bronze medals went to Abigail Finch girls 25m, Callum Savory boys 25m, Philip Daly mens 25m, Courtney Rogers girls 50m and Nicky Cushen.

The rest of the team improved their times - they were Natasha, Lucy, Helen, Rob Lynch, Joanna Davies, Shannon Rogers, Louis and Sarah Davies, Kyle Siirak, Mark Eveleigh, Matthew Lack and Sophie Woodham.

The Beavers managed to come second overall and everyone did Barry Beavers proud.

PF

Romilly bowlers in finals day action

BARRY Romilly Bowling Club held their finals day over the weekend with ladies and men's competitions played out in good conditions despite the threat of adverse weather conditions.

On Saturday morning the games included the ladies novices, the men's Mottram Cup and both ladies and men's rinks. The Mottram Cup was fought between Jeff Coles and Dave Noble; unfortunately Noble was up against an inspired Coles who took the first end and went on to win comfortably.

The ladies novice event was a game between two keen bowlers, Lynne Lafford and Gaynor Taylor, with the game being close throughout. Taylor took the lead early on but Lafford pulled back the deficit to lead 9-7 at the 10th end but Taylor fought back and went ahead 14-12 by the 15th.

At the 20th end the game was all square at 16-16 and nerves were evident as Lafford took the lead on the 21st end, scoring a two to lead 18-16 but back came Taylor who took control, taking the next four ends scoring a 1, 2, 1 and 1 to win an exciting game 21-18.

Both rinks games turned out to be closely fought with the ladies match being played over an agreed 10 ends and was won by the rink of Faye Woolcock, Anne Johnson, Marilyn Werner and Norma Goodrich, beating the rink of Ann Haines, Angela Hort, Judy Davies and Myra Newman by a single shot on the last end, 8-7.

The men's rinks final, played over 21 ends, was won by the rink of Colin Davies, Terry Bloomfield, Brian Cheal and Mike Doyle who beat the rink of Des Bannister, Alf Woolcock, Rhys Phillips and Roger Jones 23-21.

The two wood competitions were played over 21 ends, although this number wasn't required as Beryl Holmes beat Marilyn Werner 17-4 and Jeff Wright beat Mel Newman 16 -9.

On Saturday afternoon both handicap games were played along with the men's Tim Evans Trophy. The men's handicap was played off scratch between Jeff Wright and Mel Newman with Wright coming out on top, while the ladies handicap was between Myra Newman and Rita Jones with Myra winning comfortably.

The Tim Evans was played between Jeff Coles and Mike Gronow, with Coles, who has qualified for four finals altogether, winning comfortably.

Sunday morning saw both four wood pairs being played, the ladies between Gaynor Taylor/Myra Newman and Angela Hort/Jan Noble with Taylor and Newman winning comfortably, 29-12. The men's final was played beween father and son with Rhys Phillips, partnered by Gwyn Rees, getting the better of his father Fred Phillips and Jeff Coles 15-29.

The afternoon session was due to contain both championship finals and the men's triples; unfortunately the men's game between Phil Gershenson and Jeff Wright had to be postponed due illness. The men's triples went ahead between Jeff Coles, Des Bannister and Paul Clarke, who outplayed the triple of Colin Davies, Mike Gronow and Rhys Phillips.

The ladies championship being played between Beryl Holmes and Myra Newman was eagerly awaited by the spectators and they weren't let down as the bowling was of high quality.

Holmes took the early advantage and held the lead 16-5, but everyone is aware of Newman's fighting qualities and she fought her way back into the game, 18-13, and then 20-15, but Holmes ran out the winner, 21-15, in an exciting game.

The Barry Romilly presentation night is now October 3, from 7.30pm, at BP Market Street.

WRU coaches bring skills to college

WITH the Rugby World Cup having kicked off, the next generation of Welsh rugby stars have been given some expert coaching and advice at Cardiff and Vale College.

Former Wales internationals and current WRU skills coaches Chris Horsman and Geraint Lewis held a special a session for CAVC's Rugby Academy team. The coaches visited the team at CCFC/CAVC's House of Sport for the training session just days before Wales' first World Cup match against Uruguay.

CAVC's Rugby Academy provides a platform for dedicated young students who have an interest in performance and elite level rugby.

It places the emphasis on balancing sporting and educational performance and has A Licence facilities such as specialist strength and conditioning gym and a team of experts including director Martyn Fowler, who has more than 15 years of top level coaching under his belt.

Previous Rugby Academy captain Joel Ringer has since go on to play for giants Toulon.

Chris and Geraint led the team through a series of passing and tackling exercises, aimed at raising their game. The training was identical to sessions held for the under-18s and under-21s teams.

CAVC Rugby Academy captain, 17-year-old Public Services student from Dinas Powys, Dan Watts, said: "It's been really good to have these coaches here – you're always going to learn more when training, especially with WRU skills coaches. It's good for them to come here and teach us what they teach the senior team and regional Welsh teams.

"I've definitely learned a lot and hopefully that will show when we get out there and play."

Football fun starts!

ACCREDITED FAW Fun Football organisation PG10 Coaching are delighted to announce the popular under-six Football Fun Football provision which will restart on Sunday, October 11.

The provision is supported by the FAW Trust and Premier League giants Everton FC.

The fun football provision will be run under FAW mini football guidelines and be for children (boys and girls) in Year 1 and reception (4, 5 and 6 years old) held at St Cyres School 3G pitch in Penarth every other Sunday, 9.30am-11am.

If you wish to enter teams or would like your child to take part please contact petegriff10@hotmail.co.uk to enrol your team or child.

Yet another win for Flint

BRIDGEND trainer John Flint, who has been in good form of late, saw his six-year-old bay mare Ayla's Emperor land the closing Truvape Handicap over one mile and two furlongs at Chepstow last week.

However, it was a close thing as Ayla's Emperor, partnered by Daniel Muscatt, and who was made the 11-4 favourite won by a neck from Invincible Wish.

Bargoed's Bernard Llewellyn also had plenty to smile about as his Borak, ridden by Cathy Gannon, was a 4-1 winner of the previous race.

HAVE HORSES WILL TRAVEL

Aberthin's Tim Vaughan sent his seven-year-old bay gelding Makethedifference all the way to Kelso last Wednesday to contest the Bruce Farm Supporting World Horse Welfare Handicap Hurdle which was the principal race of the evening at run at 6.40pm.

Well-ridden by Michael Byrne, the well-backed 6-4 favourite scored by two-and-a quarter lengths from Captain Brown.

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60 **SEAT Ibiza 1.2 'S' 3-Dr** In silver, 29,000 miles, low insurance **£5,395**
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Late drama sees Barry claim first win of the season

BARRY RFC travelled to Gwernyfed near Talgarth for their latest league fixture and were rewarded with their first victory of the season, following a tense match which ended 22-20.

Barry started brightly and following two early infringements by the home side took the lead after three minutes with a penalty from Baros. A well-organised home pack set out their stall by driving from set pieces to put Barry under pressure with some success, but the defence was secure.

Surviving several minutes of having to defend, Barry came back to secure a scrum in home territory which resulted in a Barry penalty which Baros converted successfully.

The home team were putting good tempo into their game with backs and forwards involved and continued to look threatening, even to the point of turning down chances to kick for goal in favour of lineouts where they could use the drive as their main weapon of attack.

This proved a good decision as, following several attacking lineouts, Barry ran out of defenders to concede a try which when converted put the home side a point in front after 20 minutes.

From the kick off, Barry lost the ball allowing the home side to exert pressure at the scrum forcing Barry to concede a penalty as they were driven back; with the kick successful they made the score 10-6.

At this stage Barry had rarely made it into the home 22 but were keeping themselves in the game with some tenacious defending and poor handling by the home threequarters.

However as half-time approached Barry began to gain some territory and were boosted when they were awarded a penalty as they drove a loose ball, giving Baros a chance to reduce the deficit and he duly obliged.

Barry, after a stern half-time talk, began the second half brightly and from the kick off put some pressure on the home defence, forcing errors which led to a penalty to take them close to the line.

Winning the ball gave Barry the chance to attack and with good linking between backs and forwards, Scott's half-break found Poole in support to score a well-worked try and, with the conversion by Baros, Barry were in the lead, 16-10.

The home side came back on the attack and threatened the Barry line; still refusing to take kicks at goal, they were halted by a mixture of solid defending and poor decision-making which allowed Barry to survive this spell of the game.

Barry were forced into a change when they lost H. Jones to injury to be replaced by brother Glynn.

Barry's lineout was under pressure and following one such loss the home side drove to Barry's 10 metre line only to concede a penalty. To the delight of the Barry supporters (and players no doubt), Baros calmly struck the ball through the uprights from fully 60 metres to give Barry a nine point lead.

As expected the home side came back on the attack but unforced errors were costing them dear as they battled to get back into the game.

At last, perhaps in desperation, they opted to kick at goal as the half moved on. Fortunately for Barry they were unsuccessful. Barry changed Vidal for Such as they battled to keep the line intact, a task made more difficult with the loss a player to the bin.

The lineout following the penalty saw the home side take and drive and, with Barry short in numbers, cross for a try which when unconverted saw their lead down to four points.

Although having to defend, Barry occasionally managed to counter-attack and when Scott found space with a deft kick to the corner they were unlucky not to score.

This gave the team a foothold in enemy territory and continued pressure forced another penalty which Baros duly kicked. The game was far from over as an error by Barry from the kick off allowed the home team to attack.

Despite initially stealing the ball from the maul, Barry were somewhat unlucky to concede a try after a second drive by the home forwards. The conversion would have tied the game but to Barry's relief it was missed.

The game entered its last dramatic six minutes where both sides nearly scored, the referee needed treatment and Barry held out for their first victory of the season

Perhaps Gwernyfed might reflect they didn't take their chances, but that should not take away any of the credit which must go to a team that produced a dogged performance on limited possession, and maybe when we can get some parity from the set piece we will see our attacking ability at its best

This Saturday, Barry are away again, this time at Dowlais, with the kick off brought forward to 1.30pm; the coach will leave the club at 11.30am.

AJ

Gemma and Andy lift the Sir Robert Webber trophy!

AFTER many months of knockout rounds, the final pairings of the Sir Robert Webber were announced.

Gemma Evans (this year's ladies golf champion) and her playing partner Andy Chick facing Liz Taylor and her husband Glenn.

They competed to win the coveted mixed pairs trophy and it was a closely-fought match between them, which showed as after 18 holes the match was all square.

The match continued back down the first, as a conclusion had to be reached. The game was nip and tuck, until eventually, with daylight fading, Gemma and Andy won the match on the 24th hole.

WAYFARERS

Brynhill v Merthyr, winners Brynhill 4.5-0.5; congratulations to Christian Shepherd and Matt Lundrigan for not losing a game all season. Tom Wilcox was brought out of mothballs and obviously made the winning combination!

CLUB RESULTS

September 13 - Rabbits and Tigers mixed texas scramble: winners Steve Wright, Glyn Coles, Andy Hilton and Peter Curtis 55.7 nett; runners-up John Kirkpatrick, Lee Jones, Stuart Robertson and Nigel Stephenson 58.8 nett.

JK

All square as Dinas Powys RFC battle the 'Black army'!

A warm sunny day greeted the 'Villagers' of Dinas Powys for their visit to Llantrisant to do battle with the 'Black army', as the home side are known.

The nickname relates to the fact that the longbowmen of Llantrisant sided victoriously with Edward, the Black Prince, at the Battle of Crecy.

The home side kicked off, playing down an appreciable slope, and with this in their favour the home side dominated the majority of the first half.

Urged on by the fervent home support the home side took the lead through an early penalty and extended their lead with a well worked try that saw the Llantrisant outside centre cross unopposed uner the posts.

The easy conversion was a formality and within 10 minutes the home side led by 10-0.

Visiting to the opposition half at this point was a novelty for the Villagers and scoring oppotunities were rare as the home side used the terrain to their advantage.

The visiting support were encouraged by powerful bursts by centres Sonny Driscoll and Ciaran Driscoll, and eventually the Villagers' pack were able to pick and drive and advance up the slope.

Pack leader Huw Thomas was to the fore in this facet of play and after breaching the first line of defence the ball was fed by lively scrum half Sam Middlemiss to prop Luke Dyer, who displayed good hands in giving a well weighted pass to second row Gareth Williams, who crossed for the try.

This was to prove the only points scored at that end of the pitch, verifying the influence of the topography of the pitch.

The home side dominated the remaining 20 minutes of the first half, with Dinas able to threaten a further score only once as they ran turnover ball from near their own tryline.

A fine line break by Ciaran Driscoll freed Dan Evans on the left wing and with a try looking inevitable, Evans threw an inside pass that evaded the clutches of the supporting Nathan Williams.

The home side scored two tries during this period, the first a well worked move in the threequarters bringing in their right wing between their centres to score a try that even the visiting supporters generously applauded, and a second more predictable try following a series of lineouts and rolling mauls.

The half-time whistle blew with the home side enjoying a healthy 22-5 lead. The slope was however now in their favour and half-time saw coach John Dunleavy make several changes, as prop Andrew O'Malia, hooker Corey Imperatto, flanker Lewys John and fly half John Morris entered the fray.

The Villagers dominated the second half and with the home side under extreme pressure for the first half hour of the second half, tries by Sonny Driscoll and Sam Middlemiss were converted by Morris and the home lead was reduced to 22-19.

The visitors were rampant and with Ryan Shallish and Lewys Dunleavy running and distributing the ball like threequarters, and with Corey Imperatto and Lewys John making good distance with their more abrasive style, a further score seemed inevitable.

The home defence was resolute and the ball was prevented from emerging at every opportunity by an experienced home back row.

With seven minutes remaining the visitors were awarded a penaly that Morris converted to draw the score level at 22-22.

The visitors appeared to be favourites to gain the victory, but a series of apparently harsh penalties were awarded against Dinas Powys and with time running out it was the home side that struck the post with a long range penalty kick attempt.

The final whistle blew and both sides believed that victory could have been theirs and both sets of supporters discussed decisions that did not go in their favour.

Upon reflection, gaining two league points away at Llantrisant may, at the end of the season, appear to be a fine result.

At this early part of the season four sides in the league remain unbeaten - Dinas Powys, Llantrisant, Porth Quins and Penarth.

The next fixture on September 26 at 2.30pm on the Common is Dinas Powys v Penarth - come and support your local team.

HJ

DINAS SUFFER POOR LUCK IN HEAVY DEFEAT

DINAS POWYS FC went into this game against Cwmamman United in confident mood after their fine cup win the previous Saturday, but things seemed to go against them from the off.

Firstly, only one official turned up, and he was from west Wales, then Joe Briscombe sustained a calf strain in the warm up, Mamadu Banguraso taking his place.

However, Dinas had a good start, forcing an early corner which was cleared and then, after Joe Hinds was fouled, Nicky Davison took the 25 yard free kick finding Connor Caton at the far post to head Dinas into the lead after just four minutes.

The visitors soon got into their stride, Steven Hughes shooting just wide. It was Hughes again forcing Dinas keeper James Curtin into an early save when he connected with a cross from the right.

However, they were not to be denied and Cory Saunders equalised when he latched onto a ball across the box to beat Curtin with 10 minutes on the clock.

Just three minutes later they took the lead when Curtin could only parry a cross and Hughes netted from a wide angle for 2-1.

Dinas had another chance when Davison laid the ball off to Hinds but the Cwmamman keeper Mark Snell saved his effort. However Dinas were soon on level terms again when a cross from Nicky Bruce was headed home by Davison on 17 minutes.

Another Dinas free kick by Steve Provis looked promising but Davison was too wide on the right and his shot fizzed the wrong side of the left upright.

After some sustained pressure by the visitors, when they forced three consecutive corners, the third one found the impressive David Brown who drove it home for 3-2 on the half-hour mark.

Dinas then had a spell of pressure but the attack broke down and the visitors countered at speed, James Marr conceding a penalty which Brown took and sent Curtin the wrong way for 4-2.

The hosts weren't beaten yet and they pulled it back to 4-3 when a superb free kick from 40 yards by Davison hit both posts before nestling in the net with just two minutes of the half remaining.

Disaster then struck for Dinas when skipper Ben Luck was dismissed for two yellows; Brown took the resulting free kick which hit the post and Jack Medwin reacted quickest to slot the ball home for 5-3, giving Dinas a mountain to climb in the second half.

The visitors began the second period brightly, spraying passes around to use their man advantage. Dinas had dropped James Marr into defence to cover for the missing Luck - this is probably his best position and he was having a fine game, the highlight of which was an early run from defence right through into the opposition's 18 yard box and got a shot away which was just wide.

With 10 minutes gone Dinas manager Lee Saunders made his first substitution, King Junior Mwedzo replacing Banguraso.

The hosts began to settle and the game flowed from end to end, but Dinas had Curtin to thank when he made a great save from Brown, who was running the game at this stage.

Rhys Palmer was then replaced by Luke Swaffield and with 17 minutes of the half gone, some fine work by Mwedzo ended when he put in a good cross to Joe Hinds whose powerful header hit the crossbar and went over.

This gave the 10 men some hope and they rallied for a while until Gareth Morrell, with a strong shout for offside by the Dinas contingent, but with no linesmen, was allowed to drive through the Dinas defence to make it 6-3 on 25 minutes.

Steffan Ross then replaced Steve Provis and the game flowed from end to end but it has to be said, the referee missed several blatant offsides and Curtin was called into action again when he made a fine save from Medwin.

The visitors added two further goals in the last five minutes, Cory Saunders driving through the middle to make it 7-3 and Brown netting in the last minute to give a somewhat flattering scoreline to the visitors when he beat Curtin with a free kick for 8-3.

Squad: 1 James Curtin, 2 James Marr, 3 Nicky Bruce, 4 Ben Luck (c), 5 Connor Caton (1), 6 Steve Provis, 7 Keiron James, 8 Mamadu Banguraso, 9 Joe Hinds, 10 Nicky Davison (2), 11 Rhys Palmer, 12 Luke Swaffield, 14 Steffan Ross, 15 Joe Briscombe, 16 King Junior Mwedzo, 17 Ryan Garland.

Dinas travel West to play Ammanford on Saturday, September 26, kick off 2.30pm.

PK

Barry & District League tables and results

CRIB DIVISION 1:

Rhoose Social 8, Wyndham Cons 7; Moors Boys 6, West End 9; Liberals 8, West End Runaways 7.

League table: Wyndham Cons 26, West End 24, Liberals 22, West End Runaways 21, Moors Boys 15, Rhoose Social 14, Cadoxton Cons 13.

SKITTLES DIVISION 1:

Sea View B 7, Slammers 0; Rugby Club 6, Rhoose Social A 1; West End D 6, Liberals C 1; LiberalsA 6, Rhoosters 1; West End C 6, Cambrian Flyers 1.

League table: Sea View B 13.0, Rugby Club 12.0, Liberals A 11.5, West End D 10.0, Rhoose Social A 7.0, West End C 7.0, Liberals C 6.0, Slammers 6.0, Rhoosters 4.0, Rhoose Social C 2.0, Cambrian Flyers 2.0, Rhoose Social B 1.5, Allsorts 1.0, Barries Boys 1.0, King William XII 0.0.

SNOOKER DIVISION 1:

Market Street C 3, Penarth Cons B 2; Harbour B 4, Rhoose Social B 1; Wyndham Cons A 3, West End C 2; Cadoxton Cons Z 0, Rhoose Social C 3; CaddyAllstars 2, Savoy sA 3.

League Table: Harbour B 11, Savoy A 11, West End C 9, Wyndham Cons A 8, Rhoose Social C 7, Cadoxton Cons B 6, Penarth Cons B 5, Caddy Allstars 4, Rhoose Social B 4, Market Street C 3, *Cadoxton Cons Z 3.

SNOOKER DIVISION 2:

Sully Sports A 3, Savoy B 2; Wyndham Cons C 3, Penarth Cons A 2; West End B 1, Liberators 4; Market Street B 4, Cadoxton Cons A 1; West End A 3, Services Social B 2.

League table: Liberators 10, Wyndham Cons C 9, Services Social B 8, Penarth Cons A 7, Market Street B 6, West End A 6, Savoy B 5, Sully Sports A 5, West End B 5, Cadoxton Cons A 5, Wyndham Cons D 4.

* = Points deducted

All league & cup fixtures and results at www.barryleagues.co.uk or on Facebook - search for 'barry leagues'.

JW

WALES' RUGBY WORLD CUP STARTS TO HOT UP

The Dragon set to unseat St George!

Bonus point win sends team off in good heart

ALL PICTURES BY HUW EVANS AGENCY

LEFT : The scrum stays steady as Wales' scrum-half Gareth Davies gets the ball away.

RIGHT: Warren Gatland cuts a pensive figure as the casualty toll mounts.

BELOW: It's that man again... Justin Tipuric capped yet another fine display with a try.

TWICKENHAM'S THE NEXT STOP

...and it's far from mission impossible for Gatland's braves

BACK PAGE COMMENT
by Don John

EVEN before a ball was kicked in anger in their must-win opening match of the Rugby World Cup against Uruguay at the Millennium Stadium on Sunday, Welsh players had been given an early marker for the challenge ahead – with pool A rivals England's 35-11 win over Fiji at Twickenham.

That bonus point result added to the pressure on a much-changed Wales side to seize a priceless opportunity to better this result against the weakest team in the 'group of death' – and make a statement of their own before the big clash at Twickenham on Saturday evening.

They knew there could be no excuse for failure – after all, as the fifth-ranked team in the world, they were in the unfamiliar position of being seen as Goliath versus David (Uruguay are ranked 19th in the world).

Apart from obvious home advantage, there was also a marked physical disparity between the sides, Wales having the heaviest pack of the 20 teams in the tournament (averaging around 2271bs), with the south American amateurs the lightest (around 4171bs).

There had been calls in some media quarters for head coach Warren Gatland to follow England's example and field his strongest team from the outset, but the Kiwi had opted for a balanced line-up that saw many first choice players held back for the sterner test ahead, but nevertheless was underpinned by skipper Sam Warburton in tandem with Justin Tipuric, and second row giant Luke Charteris.

It also saw the return from injury of tight-head prop Samson Lee and fullback Liam Williams, on which so much hope depends for Wales in this global tournament.

Despite the wide gap between the two sides in world terms, the Welsh camp had insisted that they were taking the South American amateurs *"very seriously"*.

Warburton revealed beforehand that they had been closely studying videos of Los Teros in action: *"I cannot speak highly enough of our analysts. I can go on my laptop and see clips of all of their squad players, their set piece, and games they have played in the past,"* **he said.**

"It means we can have a good look at them. We can look at the lineout and plan the best options going forward.

"It's been a month since Uruguay played a bit. However, we expect them to be more organised than what we have seen."

And that indeed proved to be the case, for despite that extensive Welsh homework on the laptop, the visitors, far from being overawed by the occasion, belied their 'minnows' status with a spirited and committed display that seemed to unsettle their higher ranked opponents from the outset. In fact, the game was barely one minute old when Wales committed the first of many transgressions. Outside half Felipe Berchesi gave Uuruguay a three-point lead with the resultant penalty and then almost immediately failed with an audacious penalty attempt from all of 45 yards, as the discomfited Wales defence offended again.

He made amends with a third penalty awarded for a high tackle that amazingly put his team six points ahead inside 10 minutes - to a stunned silence from the home crowd and the delight of the small pockets of Uruguay supporters scattered around the stadium.

With the Welsh eight worryingly making heavy weather of containing their lively, lightweight opponents upfront, and the backline constantly misfiring, relief came in the shape of the returning Samson Lee, who completed a driving maul with a try converted by outside half Rhys Priestland, to edge Wales into a one-point lead.

When this was followed minutes later by the first of three tries by Blues centre Cory Allen, converted by Priestland, the crowd expected that this would finally settle Wales down, but in fact it was the south Americans who scored next when Barchesi landed his third penalty to make the score 14-9.

Two tries by the Barry man to complete his hat trick, coolly converted by Priestland, doubled the Welsh tally to 28 points, but the rising Welsh error count – lost possession, turn-overs and dropped passes that torpedoed promising attacks and cost the side dearly – continued to be a concern as a mixed first half drew to a close.

Ten minutes after the change-over Hallam Amos' converted touchdown took the score to 35-9, but even then the bustling Uruguayans were not subdued and launched an attack of their own, only to be penalised and see Priestland relieve the danger with a 30-yard clearance to touch.

Then came another blow for Wales as man-of-the-match Cory Allen injured a hamstring in a tackle and it was later learned that his World Cup adventure is over, adding to the lengthening casualty list in this injury-hit campaign.

He was replaced by former Cowbridge student Lloyd Williams (son of Brynmor) and it was the signal for others to appear off the bench.

Scrum half Gareth Davies scored the first of two tries as more gilt edged chances went begging, until Justin Tipuric forced his way over for a try converted by Priestland, to make the score 47-9.

In the dying minute, Priestland converted Gareth Davies' second touchdown for a commanding final bonus point score of 54-9.

The question though on everyone's lips was – will even this be enough, with both leading pool rivals England and Australia yet to face the south American minnows, particularly with Wales leaving the field with yet more walking wounded.

Before then, of course, there is the no small matter of a full-blown Twickenham showdown with the 'old enemy' – kicking off at the ridiculous time for travelling Welsh supporters of 8pm on Saturday.

It could well prove to be a crucial decider in the eventual outcome of pool A – and one that both sides know they simply cannot afford to lose.

It all makes for another epic crunch clash between these two arch rivals and the home team appear to hold all the aces.

But there is something in the 'all for one, one for all' spirit in this depleted Welsh camp that could yet see them confound the sceptics.

Gatland & Co have prevailed there before so the Twickenham factor should hold few fears for them.

Despite their unprecedented injury misfortunes, they will know it's definitely not mission impossible!